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AREA CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE ON ECONOMIC CRISIS

PA311930 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 21 Aug 82 p 12

[Text] Alejandro Martinez Cuenca, Nicagarua's foreign trade minister, yesterday opened the 51st regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce of Central America and Panama (FECAMCA). The ceremony took place in the auditorium of the Managua Chamber of Commerce.

In welcoming the participating delegations, Martinez stated his hope that their stay in the country will help to secure more knowledge and more trust in the climate of peace that the Sandinist revolution is trying to maintain domestically and in its relations with its Central American brothers.

At the beginning of his speech, Minister Martinez said: "The problem we want to discuss is the CACM, but we must not ignore the circumstances, because the CACM problem cannot be separated from the problems of the world economic crisis, it cannot be blamed only on political problems, and it must be analyzed within the circumstances and structural context of our economies.

This position was also upheld by Reinaldo Hernandez, president of the Nicaraguan Chamber of Commerce, who said that although the main purpose of the meeting is to analyze CACM problems, this analysis is affected by all the region's current problems. Hernandez admitted that all our countries are going through very hard times.

The meeting of businessmen from Central America and Panama, especially the businessmen of the area, was to close last night [sentence as published]. The conclusions will be announced today. Hernandez introduced the foreign trade minister by expressing hope that ideas will emerge from this meeting which will generate more wealth for all.

Martinez said: "The Central American crisis primarily results from our insignificant impact in our relations with the developed participation of our countries in the world economy. By no means is this situation the result of Nicaragua wanting to export its revolution to the rest of the area, as has been charged.

He emphasized that the causes of the crisis make us almost ineffective to it [as published], and efforts are made to use us as instruments for the objectives of the warmongers, for a confrontation among our people.

The Economic Crisis in Central America

Regarding the Central American economic crisis, the foreign trade minister said that he regarded this as tied to common problems since the current accounts balance is more than $2,017,000,000, accentuated by the massive flight of Central American capital, estimated at more than $800 million in 1981.

One must add to this the drastic drop in prices of our export products, rising foreign debt service charges, increasing costs in the handling of raw materials, spares and equipment, in addition to a deplorable deterioration in terms of trade and market restrictions due to the increasing protectionism promoted by the world's wealthier countries.

This crisis is reflected in problems with prompt payments for national purchases, which force governments to act in accordance with their national interests. "However, we have seen that this is really risky, and this is why we have the need to revitalize, readjust and recondition relations among the five countries of Central America. This is an urgent necessity," he said.

He recalled that Nicaragua's desire for integration is based on these facts to the point that "we are convinced that there are no alternatives to integration." He added that our country has continued being a strong advocate of integration and reaffirms this in the diversification of its markets.

He clearly stated that there are three fundamental tasks in seeking a solution to the crisis: to strengthen our institutions and multilateral respect, to resolve the payment problems that result from our countries' inequitable status and, from that point of view, to direct trade operations toward solving such differences, opening markets for our Central American products and working in search of better access for our products through international and regional negotiations.

Commerce and Peace

Holding that trade is a necessary element in achieving peace, Martinez Cuenca added: "We canot forget that trade must also be used as an instrument of peace between men and countries. Despite our ideological differences, it should become an instrument of harmony and peace...the peace that is so desired by Central America rests in the hands of all Central Americans, who may either strengthen or destroy it." On behalf of the Government of National Reconstruction, he called upon groups that have lost perspective and been blinded by their own interests to reflect. These groups have failed to realize that the problem does not depend upon the existence of ideological similarities; the problem is that there is a threat to the survival and unity necessary to face the challenge of achieving progress and peace.

Guatemala: Large Delegation

Guatemala, both the government and the private sector, is keenly interested in invigorating the CACM, first at the planned meeting of the area's economy ministers and now with the presence of nine delegates at the FECAMCA meeting. The Guatemalan delegation is led by Engineer Ronald Dent, president of the Guatemalan Chamber of Commerce and president of FECAMCA, who made the final address at the inaugural session of the 51st FECAMCA meeting and later drafted the agenda that was discussed at a lengthy session lasting yesterday afternoon and part of the night.

The other members of the Guatemalan delegation are Jonas Vasquez, Pedro Miguel Lamport, Sergio Paiz, Jaime Canhi, Arturo Guirela, Aurelio Carrio, Raymon Vermont and Juan Carlos Simons, who told EL NUEVO DIARIO that he views the use of trade at the Central American level as a necessity.

Money: Supply and Demand

"The main issue is monetary policy because all central banks in Central America are trying to control foreign exchange, which creates a black market that poses even greater problems. Therefore, a change in this policy would resolve the problem, permitting each country's currency to achieve a price reflected by supply and demand," Juan Carlos Simons added.

CACM Must Be Strengthened

For his part, Eduardo Martinez Saprisa, president of the Salvadoran Chamber of Commerce and owner of a textile enterprise employing 400 workers, said that it is necessary to both invigorate and to implement the CACM because it is the life of Central America. He believes that Central America has reached a debt ceiling and that it has nowhere to get more money, given its current debt of $3 billion to $4 billion that it will never repay. "The prices of Salvadoran export products are dropping; the worst thing is that the cost of producing one quintal of coffee is $105, while the international market price is $101.35," Martinez Saprisa stated. He said that his country's Christian Democratic government has reduced the area of cotton cultivation from 135,000 manzanas to 55,000, causing the country to lose the necessary foreign exchange to buy corn, beans or rice. "El Salvador's Christian Democratic government has a problem of intellectual ability...if if thinks that by meeting the people's basic requisites (cultivating grains) it is solving the problem. It costs $30 to produce one quintal of corn, while it only costs $9 to import it from the United States," he stated.

NICOLAIDES, BIGNONE DEBATE BEAGLE; ARMY MEET SET

PY311908 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1350 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 31 Aug (NA) -- While the Army commander in chief, Lt Gen Cristino Nicolaides, called a meeting of Army commanders for Thursday and Friday, it was learned that Navy Commander Jorge Anaya will announce both his retirement and the name of his successor next week.

A high-ranking military source last night revealed that at the meeting of the Army high command -- which will be attended by all major generals — Nicolaides will state his views on national and international issues and the reorganization of the Army.

As for the retirement of Anaya, who will return to the country on Thursday at the end of his Brazil tour, most reports indicate that his possible successor will be Vice Adm Ruben Franco, who now ranks third in the Navy hierarchy behind Anaya and Vice Admiral Vigo. It was also reiterated in military circles that the Army and Air Force have expressed their firm decision to advance rapidly toward achieving the recomposition of the military junta.

General Nicolaides, who called the meeting of army commanders, had lunch yesterday with President Reynaldo Bignone shortly after having met with Cardinal Juan Carlos Aramburu. The source revealed that the status of the Beagle negotiations at the Vatican was one of the special issues discussed at lunch by Generals Nicolaides and Bignone. It has been reported that they may have considered the possibility of only partially denouncing the 1972 treaty with Chile on the peaceful solution of controversies. The Argentine Government will reportedly consider the possibility of extending the treaty only in those parts relevant to the conflict, which is now the subject of the papal mediation.

The source also said that at a meeting held yesterday with Nicolaides, Gen Miguel Mallea Gil, the Argentine military attache in the United States, received the instructions he must follow for the rest of the year.

QUIJANO: RELATIONS WITH U.S. 'COLD, COLD'

PY010218 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1320 GMT 29 Aug 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Aug (NA) — The Argentine ambassador to the OAS, Raul Quijano, maintained today that relations with the United States are "cold, cold," because "there are still some memories that prevent more fluid relations."

He added that the topic of the Malvinas is being dealt with within the framework of the United Nations because "the OAS is now only a type of supervisor of the situation through its consulative organ, and for the time being there is no intention of petitioning that organization."

The Argentine ambassador made these statements early this morning when he returned from Brazil, where he gave a series of conferences in Rio de Janeiro, "where, of course, I had to speak about the Malvinas and the current state of inter-American relations."

He then said that the topic of the Malvinas in the OAS "is, in a certain way, in suspension. The consulative organ that was called into session in April continues in session, and the Argentine Government periodically provides it with information regarding certain events, such as the interference suffered recently by Argentine fishing vessels in the South Atlantic."

In this respect, he indicated that the attitude of the international organization is "one of total solidarity with Argentina; the fact that Great Britain is maintaining its hostile and aggressive attitude in waters of the South Atlantic has been the cause for serious criticism throughout Latin America."

When asked about the state of relations with the United States, the ambassador said that they are "cold, cold... the positions are gradually coming closer, but there are still some memories that prevent more fluid relations."

After indicating that the United States has still not admitted its error regarding Latin America, Quijano asserted that "it still has not adopted a position in this respect. The only thing it has implemented is aid for the Caribbean countries, which is very limited and which has faced great difficulties in Congress.

"This is why" he added, "it is easy to see that no authentic effort has been made to put an end to the problem. Nevertheless, one must be confident that there will be some type of reaction within the short term. In this respect, I believe that the act of all Latin American countries in submitting the Malvinas topic [to the United Nations] is the appropriate opportunity to see how the United States takes on the problem."

He then pointed out that the Malvinas topic is currently being dealt with within the framework of the United Nations, because "the OAS is now only a type of a supervisor of the situation through its consultative organ, and that for the time being there is no intention of petitioning that organization."

GOVERNMENT TO SEEK FRENCH SUPPORT ON FALKLANDS

PY312327 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1810 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 31 Aug (NA) -- It was learned today in San Martin Palace circles that the Argentine Government will seek France's support for dealing with the Malvinas subject during the upcoming UN General Assembly session.

The UN General Assembly will be opened on 21 September, and will discuss whether to include the Anglo-Argentine problem on its agenda. The proposal was submitted by Mexico and is supported by all the Latin American countries.

"Ambassador Arnoldo Listre's trip to Europe," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said today, "forms part of the diplomatic offensive Argentina is currently carrying out on all fronts to obtain support for the Latin American proposal of including the Malvinas subject on the agenda of the upcoming UN General Assembly session."

PERUVIAN SENATORS MEET BIGNONE, EXPRESS SUPPORT

PY010154 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 28 Aug 82 p 4

[Excerpt] "We have come to Argentina to once again present our support for Argentina in the wake of the problems brought about by the Malvinas conflict," Jorge Carlos Martin, one of the four Peruvian senators, said yesterday at the end of a meeting with the Argentine president.

A spokesman for the Peruvian delegation added that the Peruvian senators were not representing one Peruvian party only. "They represent the Peruvain national unity," the spokesman stated, "because the delegation is made up of representatives of various political parties. It is composed of senators of the government and opposition parties, and all of us together convey our solidarity, affection and support to Argentina.

ECONOMY MINISTER CONCERNED ABOUT FOREIGN DEBT

PY312357 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1330 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 31 Aug (DYN) -- Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe admitted today that if positive results are not obtained at the IMF meeting with regard to the Argentine foreign debt, "then the country will possibly experience a truly distressing situation," although he considers that Argentina "is a country that will survive any type of crisis anyway."

In an interview with a radio station here this morning, Wehbe said that "if matters go well (at the IMF meeting to be held between 6 and 9 September in Toronto, Canada) we will be able to begin a very quick development and implement an immediate reactivation."

When asked whether, on the contrary, the country might encounter difficulties in importing drugs for the manufacture of medicines, for example, the official admitted: "Of course, not only that, but the country will possibly experience a truly distressing situation if we do not take the initiative. We are an important country within the international context, and we have to act with responsibility and dignity. This is fundamental."

Asked about the assertions that "negotiations must be carried out to the very end," Wehbe indicated that he did not agree. He said that "we must work on the basis of the overall interest and, in this sense, obtain the best conditions."

Regarding the opinion of other sectors, which want "to let the creditors worry" about the debt, Wehbe asserted that "irresponsible conduct will get us no favors. Argentina," he said, "is a solvent country, a responsible country, and it must behave as such. We must not behave like an insolvent country or like swindlers. We must face our commitments with the dignity with which we have always faced them."

"We have," Wehbe continued, "a fundamental historical tradition for action, and this tradition cannot just be dropped as if it were only a neat phrase. The country's interests, its history and tradition are at stake. We must be very careful," he warned.

Wehbe reaffirmed his desire to call a public debate if the IMF has to be resorted to in order to refinance the debt, because he considers that it must be "the country's decision," because "the economy minister," he said, "is not the country's owner."

The official added that at this time "we are carrying out an intense preparation" for the meeting. "We have to see," he said, "what we have to face, and it is difficult to forecast how matters are going to be resolved or what is going to be discussed."

When asked about the sectors that assert that the IMF must not be resorted to, Wehbe said that "we have to see what course the negotiations take and which is the most convenient course. This," he stressed, "must be defined now, because a fight is very nice, but sometimes very destructive."

Answering another question, Wehbe rejected the necessity of restoring economic relations with England before going to the IMF. "I do not believe," he said, "that this is necessary. Evidently it would be a good thing," he added, "but there are other types of problems with England that are being resolved in a sector that is not mine -- political and diplomatic problems in which I cannot and should not involve myself."

When asked about rumors that the brothers Juan and Roberto Alemann would be included in the official delegation that is going to Toronto, Wehbe emphasized, raising his voice, "it is a fantasy, only a fantasy that I have opted not to take into account," and he added: "I cannot prevent people from going on their own account, executives that wish to enrich their curriculum vitae or conduct deals there." Wehbe asserted that for reasons of "austerity," the official delegation will include "five persons, and eventually the president pf the Central Bank." He repeated that "Of course, I cannot prevent many people from going on their own account."

On asking him about another rumor that former Economy Minister Adalbert Krieger Vassena is an adviser of his, Wehbe answered: "No, what a hope. I have a very old friendship with Krieger Vassena. He is a man who has an important background and his opinions must be taken into consideration," taking into account that "the country is not in a position to reject any type of experience."

He was then asked whether the assertion made by Finance Secretary Aldo Ducler that Wembe "is not a man who is tied to sectorial interests, internal or international, he is only tied to the national interest" was made in order to reject another assertion that indicated the opposite, Wehbe denied it. "It is not due to a previous attack," he said.

Finally, on the ups and downs of the dollar and its price on the parallel market, Wehbe spoke about the "hysterics of the people," and said that "the topic of the economy has been abused here." He asserted that "Within a short time the people are going to be convinced that in countires such as ours there is much more productivity in work than in speculation" and that "the hysterics will pass." The economy minister was interviewed by Radio Mitre of this capital.

JAN-JUL 82 PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES RELEASED

PY010257 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2344 GMT 30 Aug 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Aug (TELAM) -- Despite the important decline in exports, when compared with the same period in 1981, during the first 7 months of the year Argentina obtained a surplus of approximately $2 billion in its trade balance, according to figures released by the National Imports Directorat. The report, based on provisional figures provided by the National Statistics and Census Board, indicates that exports during July 1982 totalled $581 million and improts totalled $376 million, resulting in a $205 million surplus. The total of sales abroad during the 7 months amounted to $5,095,000,000 (with a 13 percent decline when compared with the same period in 1981), while purchases amounted to $3,131,000,000 (a decrease of 46 percent), thus giving a net surplus of $1,964,000,000, approximately 18 times more than last year.

Moreover, the report indicates that there has been a substantial decline Argentina's overall trade with the best of the world, which during these 7 months totalled only $8,226,000,000, 30 percent less than the $11,743,000,000 in 1981 and 19 percent less than the $10,138,000,000 in 1980.

The $581 million worth of exports during July 1982 is the lowest figure since December 1981, resulting in a 39 percent decline when compared with the figures achieved in April ($949 million) and a 46 percent decline when compared with July 1981. Regarding imports, the amounts achieved in June and July ($362 million and $376 million, respectively) are the lowest that the country has registered since 1979, and when compared with the record monthly average of the last 4 months of 1980, there has been a decline of 70 percent.

YACYRETA HYDOELECTRIC PROJECT TO START IN 1983

PY311410 Paris AFP in Spanish 0101 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Aug (AFP) -- Argentine Public Works and Services Minister Conrad Bauer asserted here today that work on the Argentine-Paraguayan Yacyreta binational hydroelectric project "will start during mid-1983." The minister thus denied recent statements attributed to Paraguayan Commerce and Industry Minister Delfin Ugarte Centrurion indicating that Yacyreta will not be built.

Bauer, who attributed the delay in starting work on the hydroelectric plant to the ups and downs of the Argentine ceonomy, said that matters have not changed with the new economic leadership in Argentina. "Next week," he maintained, "we will continue with the analysis of the project." The project has been reactivated, he said, and we hope to resolve the collateral administrative problems by the end of the year. In conclusion, he added, I am in a position to say that work will start on Yacyreta during mid 1983.

MAR DEL PLATA SUBMARINE HARBOR BEING DEEPENED

PY010332 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1216 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Mar del Plata, 31 Aug (DYN) -- Reliable sources have reported that work to deepen the harbor which serves as a naval station for the units which make up the submarine fleet at the naval base of this city has begun. The barge Barrera, which was brought from Buenos Aires, is already at the site. Another barge will be arriving soon.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA -- Buenos Aires, 27 Aug (TELAM) -- The Venezuelan Government has agreed to the appointment of Francisco Moyano as the new Argentine ambassador to Venezuela. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2115 GMT 27 Aug 82 PY]

NEW RIO NEGRO GOVERNOR -- Buenos Aires, 27 Aug (NA) -- Carlos Alberto San Juan, a businessman, was named governor of Rio Negro Province, it was reported tonight at Government House. [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2119 GMT 27 Aug 82 PY]

NEW ECONOMY OFFICIAL -- Buenos Aires, 27 Aug (TELAM) -- Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe has named Miguel Eduardo Iribarne as the new economy under secretary. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2120 GMT 27 Aug 82 PY]

NEW WEEKLY -- Buenos Aires, 30 Aug (AFP) -- A new weekly called LAS CARTAS DE JUAN Y JUANA appeared on the Buenos Aires newstands today. It is a 16-page tabloid printed in one color. Its most outstanding characteristic is that it is written by the readers. [Paris AFP in Spanish 2139 GMT 30 Aug 82 PY]

AIRLINE AUTHORIZATION CANCELED -- Buenos Aires, 20 Aug (TELAM) -- It has been reported that the authorization granted to Aerovias Solaris Corp for rendering international air cargo transportation services on a nonregular schedule has been canceled. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1801 GMT 20 Aug 82 PY]

TURBINE BEGINS OPERATION -- Concordia (Entre Rios), 25 Aug (TELAM) -- Maria de los Milagros, the 13th turbine of the Salto Grande Argentine-Uruguayan powerplant, started operating on 25 August 1982. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1519 GMT 25 Aug 82 PY]

RETIRED ARMY OFFICER RELEASED -- Buenos Aires, 21 Aug (AFP) -- Maj (Ret) Benito Llambi, who was interior minister during the last Peronist administration, was released today after serving a 45-day arrest in the Campo de Mayo military garrison. He was given the sentence because he had criticized the way the Malvinas war was run. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1455 GMT 21 Aug 82 PY]

BRAZIL COMMUNICATIONS AGREEMENT -- Buenos Aires, 27 Aug 82 -- Argentina and Brazil have signed an agreement for the implementation of an industrial and technological cooperation plan in the field of communications. The plan is aimed at the creation of binational enterprises. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1950 GMT 27 Aug 82 PY]

MINERAL EXPORTS -- Buenos Aires, 31 Aug (TELAM) -- The mines under secretariat announced today that mineral exports during the first 6 months of 1982 amounted to 175,379 tons valued at $29,866,137. This represents a 20.7 percent incr ase in the value of minerals exported compared with the same period in 1981 and a 225.7 percent increase in volume. Exports in June amounted to 35,472 tons valued at $3,655,438. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1624 GMT 31 Aug 82 PY]

PARAGUAY REPORTEDLY WITHDRAWS FROM URUPABOL

PY010109 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 2330 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Paraguay has withdrawn from Urupabol [Permanent Joint Commission of Uruguay, Paraguay and Bolivia], according to a report released by the Bolivian Foreign Ministry.

Bolivian Foreign Minister Augustin Saavedra has addressed a note to the Paraguayan foreign minister regarding the Paraguayan decision to withdraw from Urupabol. The note says: I have been informed of the Paraguayan Government's withdrawal from Urupabol by the Bolivian Embassy in Paraguay. The Bolivian Government respects the reasons which have caused the Paraguayan Government to resign from the Urupabol accord.

I hereby express to your excellency that such a decision will not affect the bilateral relations between the two governments nor the multilateral ties between them. I also convey to your excellency the Bolivian Government's firm decision to intensify the bilateral relations and the multilateral ties (?in view of) the common interests and brotherly friendship which currently unite our two countries.

MINEWORKERS CONGRESS PROGRAM DRAWS MINISTRY FIRE

Congress Program Reported

PY312149 Paris AFP in Spanish 2144 GMT 29 Aug 82

[Text] La Paz, 29 Aug (AFP) -- The 19th Congress of the Mineworkers Federation of Bolivia (FSTMB), held in Huanuni 220 km south of La Paz, closed this morning with the reelection of Juan Lechin Oquendo as executive secretary of the organization and the approval of an anti-imperialist program.

The meeting made an appeal to all Bolivian parties of the left to unite around the platform. The platform calls for suspending payment of the foreign debt; eliminating the floating exchange rate and the monopoly over foreign trade; reducing public expenditures in unproductive sectors; transfering private banks to the state; repealing the investments law and the hydrocarbons law, and fair prices for agrarian products.

A report saying that all the leftist parties, including the Trotskyist Revolutionary Workers Party (POR), the sectors leaning toward Beijing and the Socialist Party-One (PS-1), had decided to unite around former President Hernan Siles Zuazo's Democratic and Popular Unity (UDP) was denied during the meeting.

The draft platform was presented by the Bolivian Communist Party (PCB), which is a member of the UDP and whose ideological domination of it became obvious during the congress.

The mineworkers also resolved to accept the tactical use of such democratic-bourgeois expedients as elections, parliamentary struggle, the consolidation of political and labor union liberties and university autonomy as the means of reaching the strategic goals of the working class.

The congress resolved to reject the convening of the congress elected in 1980 to appoint a new president. But there was also no clear support for the call to new elections in 1983, and everything seems to show that no consensus was reached regarding this subject and it was therefore agreed not to adopt any final position on this matter.

For the first time in 37 years, Lechin Oquendo was not elected unanimously as executive secretary, as he obtained 48 votes against 6 cast for PCB leader Simon Reyes. In this connection, it was pointed out that Lechin Oquendo is the top leader of the Revolutionary Party of the Nationalist Left (PRIN), which has little weight in the life of the nation.

Lechin promised to continue to learn from the mineworkers in order to be as daring as they, the true teachers of the class struggle being waged in the country, and until U.S. imperialism and its allies, as well as the oppressors in the armed forces of this country, are defeated.

Victor Lopez, who is linked with the Christian Democratic Latin America Workers Federation (CLAT), was confirmed as secretary general, while Simon Reyes and Oscar Salas, both from the PCB, will continue as public relations and finance secretaries, respectively.

In conclusion, it was decided that the 20th congress will be held in the Matilde district, Oruro Department, in the south of the country.

Interior Ministry Criticism

PY311719 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0230 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] La Paz, 30 Aug (TELAM) -- Bolivian Interior Minister Edgar Rojas Ruiz gave his reply today to very serious accusations made yesterday by mineworkers leader Juan Lechin Oquendo, who said that the Bolivian Armed Forces and police should be destroyed.

Rojas Ruiz said that Lechin Oquendo's remarks, made in a speech at the closing of the 19th mineworkers congress in the town of Huanuni, referred to banned objectives. The minister also extolled the activity of the Bolivian Armed Forces, "which are not repressive," he said.

In addition, the minister criticized the mineworkers congress which ended yesterday, saying that it did not contribute any solution to the problems of the country and asserted that there are no shared responsibilities.

Rojas Ruiz said that the Bolivian crisis is the fault of the intellectual class of the country, whom he termed weak and idle, a class which has readily introduced ideological structures from other countries and produced absolutely nothing.

GOVERNMENT BEGINS FORMING ELECTORAL COURT

Parties Name Representatives

PY010152 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1916 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Excerpt] La Paz, 31 Aug (LATIN-REUTER) -- The political parties have designated their representatives to the National Electoral Court. Constituting the National Electoral Court is considered to be one of the most important steps toward the restoration of democracy in Bolivia.

The various political parties which were represented in the 1980 congress designated eight representatives each (four representatives and four alternate representatives) during a 5-hour meeting held last night. The political parties also requested that each of them be allowed to designate four representatives to congress (two representatives and two alternate representatives).

Former Foreign Minister Julio Garret Ayllon, who was named to preside over the meeting, asserted that constituting the National Electoral Court, which will be provided for in a supreme decree to be released within the next few hours, is one of the most important steps toward the restoration of democracy. The democratic process was interrupted by a military coup 2 years ago.

Garret Ayllon added that the formation of the National Electoral Court will permit the consideration of the proposals which have been submitted, such as those related to the holding of general elections and to the reconvening of the 1980 congress.

AFP Background Report

PY312138 Paris AFP in Spanish 1705 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] La Paz, 31 Aug (AFP) -- Political analysts said here today that the presence of practically all the big Bolivian political parties at the meeting called by the Interior Ministry to form the new National Electoral Court is a virtual acceptance of the government's call for new presidential elections in 1983. Interior Minister Edgar Rojas Ruiz limited himself to opening the meeting and then left the party leaders, who have been almost inactive since the bloody military coup on 17 July 1980, free to deliberate.

After arduous discussions, the delegates agreed to form the electoral court from representatives of the political parties that won most of the votes in the 1980 elections, elections which were annulled by the government of Gen Luis Garcia Meza on the basis of the mutal accusations of fraud made by the parties. The collegiate body was thus formed by representatives of Hernan Siles Zuazo's National Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MNRI), Victor Paz Estenssoro's Historical National Revolutionary Movement (MNRH), Hugo Banzer Suarez' Nationalist Democratic Action (ADN) and the Christian Democratic Party (PDC).

It was observed that Siles Zuazo's followers had until now been reluctant to establish contacts with the government, alleging that the current president, Gen Guido Vildoso Calderon, represented the continuation of Garcia Meza.

It was also believed that Minister Rojas Ruiz has accelerated the calling together of the electoral court in order to stop the wave of antimilitarism created by the harsh economic situation and encouraged by labor leader Juan Lechin Oquendo, who called for the disappearance of the Bolivian Armed Forces and police at the recent mineworkers congress at Huanuni (220 km south of the capital.

BRIEFS

YELLOW FEVER ERADICATION PROGRAM -- Dr (Sergio Balderrama), director of the departmental program for control of yellow fever, has stated that the program to eradicate yellow fever in Santa Cruz is developing normally and according to plan. (Balderrama) said that 708 persons had been vaccinated in nearby regions. The program is aimed especially at peasants in this region. He also said that in parallel with the vaccination campaign, entomological studies are being made with the larva of mosquitoes to determine the existence of the yellow fever carrier in this zone. [La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 Aug 82 PY]

URUPABOL RATIFICATION -- La Paz, 22 Aug (AFP) -- The Bolivian Government has ratified the entry of the country into the URUPABOL group, formed by Uruguay, Paraguay and Bolivia, by government decree dated last 29 May but published only yesterday. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1609 GMT 22 Aug 82 PY]

ARMED FORCES PROMOTIONS -- The following promotions have been ordered in the Bolivian Armed Forces. Army Brigadier Generals Antonio Ovando Rojas and Simon Sejas Tordoya have been promoted to major general. Army Colonels Jose Olvis Arias, Hugo Gironda Flores, Angel Vargas Tejada, Felix Villarroel Teran, Lorgio Justiniano Flores and Mario Escobari Guerra have been promoted to brigadier general Air Force Colonel Rene Justiniano Fortun has been promoted to bridgadier general. Navy Rear Admirals Wilfredo de la Barra Saavedra and Rene Torres Saavedra have been promoted to vice admiral. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 9 Aug 82 p 6 PY]

PAPER VIEWS U.S. ACTIONS IN GUERAYBEKOV CASE

PY010237 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Aug 82 p 2

[Commentary by R. L.: "The Option for Freedom"]

[Text] Brasilia -- The United States has swiped from Brazil through somewhat unorthodox channels Soviet political scientist Sevim Gueraybekov who had asked for asylum. The official U.S. report has caused a certain anxiety among the zealous guardians of our soverignty.

Undoubtedly, the transfer of the Soviet citizen has violated Brazilian and international laws dealing with this matter. The [U.S.] Embassy should have previously informed Itamaraty about the request and procured a safe-conduct so that the person in question could leave the country for his new adopted fatherland. In the field of written law there really has been a violation.

We may also say that this is a welcome violation because it was committed to defend values which are more important than agreements among states. In fact, they are also more important than the states themselves. There are no written laws that can limit the rights of men as far as life and freedom are concerned: This is the fundamental point in the struggle against all forms of oppression.

The state cannot establish limits to the fundamental laws because they are inherent to human dignity and it does not change according to the trends of the political structure. If the Soviet citizen wanted to leave his country and the regime had prevented him from doing so, something ought to have been done to guarantee his option. Even though the Americans violated a number of laws, they acted correctly.

Unfortunately, inalienable rights do not always find champions ready to do everything to defend them. The same right to freedom which protected Gueraybekov's aspirations also gives Brazilian citizens the right to choose their rulers. Yet the nation has been living under a military regime for 18 years under Washington's approving eyes. Why does a Soviet citizen have the right to choose the regime under which he wants to live and we don't? What can be said, then, of other Latin American countries which are submitted to brutal dictatorship?

The only possible answer is that the interpretation of rights changes according to the conveinience of the powerful. It is appropriate to remember, however, that the kidnapping of the Soviet citizen is not the first case among us. Before him we had had a similar kind of action, although in the opposite direction, carried out in Rio Grande do Sul. Two Uruguayan citizens who were exercising their right to live among us -- Universindo Dias and Lilian Celiberti -- were forcibly taken to the border and handed over to their executioners. This is another violation of the laws with a sordid purpose, and Brazil has not yet demanded the return of the victims of that vileness. Or does the right to freedom exist only for those who escape from the Soviet Union?

FIGUEIREDO REPLIES TO REAGAN LETTER ON FALKLANDS

PY312241 Rio De Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 31 Aug 82 p 14

[Text] Brasilia -- In a letter addressed to Ronald Reagan, President Joao Figueiredo has asserted that the Brazilian Government continues to be concerned over the status of inter-American relations. President Figueiredo made this assertion when indirectly referring to the mistrust of the United States in view of its support for Great Britain during the Falkland Islands conflict.

The government has not disclosed the text of the letter. However, General Figueiredo's letter was written in response to a letter President Reagan addressed to him at the beginning of August in which he referred to the Anglo-Argentine conflict and to the U.S. role in the dispute.

ARGENTINA'S ANAYA HAILS SUPPORT ON FALKLANDS

PY311953 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] The navy commander in chief, Adm Jorge Isaac Anaya, has stated in Rio de Janeiro that our country achieved a great victory during the South Atlantic conflict; Brazil, filled with courage and solidarity, was on its side just like most Latin American countries. He made the statement to the press during the visit he is making to Brazil.

Anaya said: For the first time in this century, and after exhausting every avenue for obtaining a response to its protests, an American nation decided to defend its territory with blood. He noted that Brazil and Argentina will make their voices heard and their rights recognized at the assembly of nations. He added: We will do so in international forums where we trust just decisions will be taken toward a country which had given adequate proof to the world of moderation, honesty and love for freedom. Then a new concept of dignity will prevail and new guidelines will be established for a better and more just West.

Admiral Anaya was decorated by his Brazilian counterpart with the Medal of Naval Merit. Yesterday afternoon he held a 30-minute meeting with President Joao Figueiredo and also met with Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro.

Military Sales Discussed

PY312201 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1420 GMT 30 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Brasilia, 30 Aug (TELAM) -- The possibility of Argentina purchasing airplanes and warships from Brazil to replace the war materiel lost in the recent conflict over the Malvinas Islands is one of the subjects of the official talks which Argentine Navy Commander Adm Jorge Isaac Anaya is holding in this capital.

The report, released today by Brazilian Navy Ministry sources, adds that the possibility of Brazil supplying technology to Argentina to build warships in return for submarine-construction technology will also be studied. According to the sources, the need to exchange this technology has emerged from the fact that episodes such as the Malvinas crisis can involve suspensions in the supply of technology and weapons by the European countries.

MINISTERS INTERVIEWED FOLLOWING CABINET MEETING

PY312209 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Report from Government House by Graciela Contreras]

[Excerpts] During the cabinet meeting held today at Government House at 1000, President Augusto Pinochet gave specific instructions to cabinet members. His recommendations were especially aimed at the new ministers who were sworn in yesterday. Interior Minister Brig Gen Enrique Montero gave a general picture of the meeting held this morning.

[Question] How does the government regard the internal and external situation?

[Begin Montero recording] The situation is fine and very clear. [end recording]

[Question] You said the other day that the country was politically calm. Do you have the same opinion after the attacks staged in recent days?

[Begin Montero recording] Well, political activity is something quite different from terrorist activities. You all know what has happened concerning terrorist actions. We are taking the necessary measures. We are also investigating the problem involving the fire on Grajales Street of which you are also aware. I (?will be briefed) on the background today at 1700 and we will then decide on the measures we will take. As far as I can tell, those measures will be quite serious. [end recording]

In turn, Justice Minister Monica Madariaga referred to the antiterrorist draft law.

[Begin Madariaga recording] The draft was drawn up by a joint commission from the Interior and Justice Ministries and is now in the hands of the presidential advisory committee, which will give its final ruling. Therefore, the date of enactment of the law will depend on the president's advisers. [end recording]

[Question] Does the law foresee the death penalty?

[Begin Madariaga recording] I would say it provides for effective penalties, but I cannot say whether it includes the death penalty because I don't remember. [end recording]

For his part, Hernan Felipe Errazuriz, government secretary general, also referred to the cabinet meeting.

[Begin Errazuriz recording] The president also gave instructions to the new ministers and referred to the responsibilities they bear. He also asked the ministers to talk very openly with the press. These were the major issues discussed during the meeting. [end recording]

[Question] Any other specific topic discussed at the meeting?

[Begin Errazuriz recording] Well, the need for maintaining smooth communications channels with the press was particularly stressed. This was the first time I have heard such a strong recommendation on this matter. [end recording]

FARC ASKS BETANCUR TO FIX DATE, PLACE FOR TALKS

PA010412 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1513 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Bogota, 31 Aug (EFE) -- The "Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia" (FARC) guerrilla group asked President Belisario Betancur today to fix the date, time and place for the initiation of peace talks. The "FARC" sent a message from the underground to the head of state asking him to arrange for such talks before starting any new military actions in the areas of fighting.

The message, signed by top "FARC" leader Manuel Marulanda Velez, includes high praise for Betancur himself. It also details the failure of the guerrillas' contacts with Alfonso Lopez Michelsen's government and with the defunct "peace committee" during Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala's regime, which was led by former President Carlos Lleras Restrepo.

During the Lopez Michelsen administration, according to the "FARC" document, "notes were exchanged and concurrence was reached on eight points that led to an agreement on a meeting with a fixed date and place to begin a dialogue, but for reasons unknown to us President Lopez never honored this agreement."

The document adds that President Turbay Ayala was also approached, as was the peace committee, and that "we sent a mission to Bogota requesting talks, but no agreements were achieved."

FARC ATTACKS VILLAGE; CASUALTIES REPORTED

PA310537 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1748 GMT 30 Aug 82

[Text] Bogota, 30 Aug (LATIN-REUTER) -- A guerrilla group tried to seize a village in the northwestern part of the country today, but was repelled by police in an action that left a noncommissioned officer and six policemen seriously wounded, the police reported.

The report stated that some 40 guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia attacked the village of Tudela, near Villa Gomez, 130 km northwest of Bogota. The ensuing shootout lasted 2 hours. Police action prevented the seizure of the village. No casualties were reported among the guerrillas.

Meanwhile, the National Defense Ministry reported that one army officer died and two others were wounded when a fragmentation grenade went off early this morning at a military post in Puerto Berrio, 400 km northwest of Bogota.

The ministry did not provide additional details, but radio reports today mentioned an alleged guerrilla attack on the military post.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES ELECTRICITY RATIONING

PA010236 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1926 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Bogota, 31 Aug (LATIN-REUTER) -- Carlos Martinez Simmahan, minister of mines and energy, announced today that electricity is to be rationed. The measure will affect some 12 million Colombians in nine cities.

Martinez explained to newsmen that the water level at the country's main hydroelectric plant's reservoirs has dropped because of the lack of rain, and that it must be restored. This makes it necessary to take preventive measures in order to avoid more complex situations in the future.

He also said that the rationing will be implemented gradually by cutting electric power for 1 or 2 hours a day, depending on regional circumstances.

The situation has been further complicated by the suspension of operations for the second phase of the Chivor hydroelectric plant, located north of Bogota, which can generate 500 kw.

The suspension of operations was ordered 3 weeks ago when leaks in the water pipes caused landslides that destroyed houses in the village of Santa Maria with a population of 5,000.

Colombians earlier went through a rationing period from December 1980 to February 1982 when the reservoirs' water level dropped.

MINISTER ON CONDITIONS FOR FOREIGN INVESTMENT

PA311415 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 30 Aug 82

[Text] Bogota -- Eight basic conditions under which new foreign capital and technology can remain in the country have been announced by the government.

Economic Development Minister Roberto Gerlein defended the provisions that regulate foreign investment in our country. He said that the nation cannot close its doors to such investment, considering our conditions of development. Of course, he said, such investment should not replace areas in which Colombia is fully efficient.

The minister listed the following minimum requirements for Colombia to continue (?accepting) foreign capital under the law:

Foreign capital must not compete with national interest;
It must limit the use of local credit as much as possible;
It must facilitate a reactivation of the nation's economy;
It must contribute to the creation of jobs;
It must promote our exports;
It must not demand a high or unnecessary input of technology;
It must not have a negative effect on our balance of payments;
It must be directed toward the country's productive sectors.

Within this framework, these parameters, foreign investment and technology will be welcomed because we undoubtedly need them, the minister said. However, they must not displace or replace efforts of which the country is fully competent, the minister added during Caracol's "Five Reporters and the Personality of the Week" program.

BRIEFS

NEW TELECOM PRESIDENT -- Herman Gonzalez Sorzano has been sworn in as president of the National Telecommunications Enterprise, Telecom. He replaces (Guillermo Sagra). [Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Aug 82 PA]

GOVERNMENT APPOINTEES -- The government announces the following appointments: Rear Adm Edgard Garay Rubio is moved from director of the Superior War College to commander of naval forces in the Pacific Ocean; (Carmen Alicia Espinoza de Diaz) is new secretary general of the Ministry of Education; (Juan Manuel Lleras Restrepo) is the personal representative of the president to the Board of Directors of the National Telecommunications Enterprise, Telecom; (Maria Teresa Garces) is deputy minister of communications and new manager of the company for the development of the film industry [compania de fomento cinematografico]. [Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Aug 82 PA]

NEW PORT MANAGER -- The government has ordered the following appointments: the manager in charge of the Colombian ports enterprise, Colpuertos, (Alonso Lucio Escobar), replaces (Rodrigo Fuentes Noguera), who resigned. [Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Aug 82 PA]

CHARGES AGAINST ENERGY MINISTER CAUSE CONCERN

Rumors of Cabinet Crisis

PA311420 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Ernesto Alban Gomez, national secretary of public information, has again denied rumors of a cabinet crisis. He said that he is optimistic that a majority in the legislature will support Natural Resources and Energy Minister Eduardo Ortega, who is accused of violating the law by legislators, who are now questioning him.

Alban Gomez answered journalists' questions on various aspects of the country's political life. Regarding a possible cabinet crisis, Alban Gomez said that there is no reason to expect such a crisis.

CFP Withdraws Support

PA311735 Paris AFP in Spanish 1708 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Quito, 31 Aug (AFP) -- The Concentration of Popular Forces (CFP) has announced that it has withdrawn its support from the government of President Oswaldo Hurtado. It has been decided that the public works and social welfare ministers, Rafael Robles and Patricio del Pozo -- both CFP militants -- are to resign.

This decision was made at dawn today after analyzing the position that the CFP will adopt at the political trial being faced by Natural Resources and Energy Minister Eduardo Ortega. Legislators Hugo Caicedo of the Democratic Left, and Leon Febres Cordero, a Social Christian, have accused Ortega of having violated the law with his handling of the oil policy and electricity rates. A vote on this has been ordered.

CFP Deputy Director Aberroes Bucaram, who is also a legislator, announced the decision adopted by this political group's parliamentary bloc.

The government is analyzing the political situation that has emerged in order to respond.

DEMONSTRATIONS CONTINUE IN GUAYAS PROVINCE

PA311454 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Incidents are spreading in Guayas Province. A total of 14 people were arrested yesterday. Students sprinkled fuel on the Yaguachi Bridge and set it afire, obstructing traffic.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO ITALY -- Newsman Alfredo Pinargote has been appointed ambassador to the Italian Government. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1545 GMT 10 Aug 82 PA]

INCREASE IN FOREIGN INVESTMENT -- Foreign investment grew by 67 percent between August 1981 and July 1982. [Text] [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 25 Aug 82 PA]

CHARGE AGAINST WRITER SPARKS REQUEST TO U.S.

Ex-Minister Denies Charge

PY311637 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 28 Aug 82 P 10

[Excerpts] Issue No. 243 of the weekly "SENDERO" -- the newspaper published by the Paraguayan Episcopal Conference -- for the last week of August appeared yesterday. It carries a letter dated 4 June 1982 from Dr Edgar L. Ynsfran, interior minister from 1956 to 1966, to Paraguayan writer Augusto Roa Bastos. From the text of the letter, it can be deducted that it was written to Roa concerning the charges made by Interior Secretary Dr Miguel Angel Bestard on the writer's alleged communist affiliation. Yesterday, we called Dr Ynsfran and he confirmed that he wrote the letter. This is the text.

"Dear Roa: Today I read the letter in which you deny the charges made against you by a government official concerning your alleged communist militancy, a reason which reportedly caused your recent banishment.

"This kind of previous introduction could be a reasonable motivation for the reaction I had when I read your open letter. But even had that personal background not existed, my respect for justice and the obligation to defend truth have compelled me to give you my testimony, precisely and straightforwardly: 1) During the 1956-1966 period you were never identified as a Paraguayan Communist Party member; 2) nor were you identified as a member or leader of the FULNA [United Front of National Liberation] during the guerrilla activities in our country between 1958 and 1960; 3) you have never been reported as being either directly or indirectly connected with ADELANTE, the official newspaper of the Paraguayan Communist Party; and 4) until I left the Interior Ministry in 1966 there were no reports on any trips by you to Cuba.

"I know that your word alone carries more weight than any statements that I have made to you here, but they are more to satisfy my own conscience rather than to defend you. I am not publishing these statements because my intervention may be more harmful than helpful to you. You are, however, free to make use of my testimony as you wish, with the following final observation: I do not think we are helping Paraguay by giving to the Communist Party, free of charge, outstanding national figures, who, based on their merit and talents, enjoy as you do, a privileged position in the eyes of world critics.

Government Used U.S. Report

PY311639 [Editorial Report] Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish on 29 August devotes the upper-half of page 11 to a letter dated 28 August sent by Interior Ministry Under Secretary Miguel Angel Bestard to the director of the newspaper and two photocopies attached to the letter.

The text of Mr Bestard's letter, which is published on the upper left section of the page, states:

"I am referring to the letter sent by Dr. Edgar L. Ynsfran to Augusto Roa Bastos which was published in your newspaper today.

"While I do not want to elaborate, I would like to say that I am assuming Dr. Ynsfran, due to his busy schedule, was not aware of reports that were available at the ministry at the time he was interior minister.

"Attached to this letter, I am sending for publication a photocopy of the relevant sheet of a document issued by the Embassy of the United States of America which shows that Augusto Roa Bastos travelled to Cuba in 1964 and 1968 and the photocopy of an article on Roa Bastos in the newspaper UNIDAD PARAGUAYA, the mouthpiece of the Central Committee of the Paraguayan Communist Party.

"Before closing, I would like to reiterate that my assertions are supported by documents available at the security services of this ministry which had been precisely created during Dr Ynsfran's tenure."

Immediately below the letter is a photocopy of a typewritten list of Paraguayan citizens travelling abroad showing that Augusto Roa Bastos went to Cuba on "0164" and "00160." The word "secret" is typed at the top center of the list and stamped on the bottom part.

The upper right section of the page is fully devoted to a clipping of an article from the newspaper UNIDAD PARAGUAYA on Roa Bastos, The letterhead reads: "UNIDAD PARAGUAYA. For the defense of the fatherland and democracy. Newspaper of the Central Committee of the Paraguayan Communist Party. No 23. Special 1 May Issue (May 1966) -- Price: 20 Pesos." On top of this letterhead there is a seal reading: "Interior Ministry. National Directorate for Technical Affairs."

At the lefthand corner of the lower right section there is a handwritten notation: "November 1964." Immediately below this is a 200-word article on and a picture of Roa Bastos. Two paragraphs emphasizing Roa Bastos' ideas and his call to Paraguayan youths "to join efforts, to prepare for the struggle and to contribute to the task of achieving a national liberation" are underlined.

Legislators Probe Roa Affair

PY311658 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 31 Aug 82 p 7

[Text] Radical deputies Justo Pastor Benitez and Aurelio Ramon Insfran yesterday told the president of the Chamber of Deputies that there is possibly "open and unrestrained interference by a foreign country (the United States) in our domestic affairs." This concern was expressed in the preamble of a draft request for information submitted by these legislators regarding a secret document provided by the Yankee Embassy to the security organization of this country which has been published by the press in this capital.

The request for information begins: "Dailies of this capital have published a letter signed by Interior Ministry Under Secretary Miguel Angel Bestard together with facsimiles of photocopies of documents which were reportedly provided by the U.S. Embassy from 1964 to 1966 and of the periodical UNIDAD PARAGUAYA of the year 1966.

"Without taking into consideration the subject of those publications, which had its origin in a letter from a countryman regarding the same question, it strongly draws the conclusion that those photocopies -- in the hands of the Interior Ministry according to the official -- were provided by the respective U.S. services to the political police authorities of this country through the embassy of that country in Paraguay."

It is added that the document, which is stamped "secret," lists over 30 Paraguayans who reportedly travelled to Cuba. "It should be clarified that the document is alleged to be official and originating from U.S. offices," it is added.

It is said in another paragraph that "The first conclusion is the belief that there is a connection or rather a subordination of our police information organizations to similar ones in foreign countries which, in turn, leads to the supposition of an open intervention in the internal affairs of this country, making unacceptable to our sovereignty and dignity as a nation a situation which has been foreseen and rejected in several articles of the American declaration of human rights."

This request for information asks the executive branch if there are any commitments between the Paraguayan police organizations and their counterparts in other foreign countries and if there is an exchange of official information.

Information Exchange Admitted

PY311750 Asuncion Radio Primero de Marzo in Spanish 1435 GMT 31 Aug 82

[By correspondent Evanhy]

[Text] A request for information on the existence of agreements between Paraguayan and foreign agencies for the exchange of official information has been submitted to Congress by opposition deputies Justo Pastor Benitez and Aurelio Ramon Instran. The request is being submitted in the wake of the publication of a letter from Edgar Ynsfran, who was interior minister many years ago, to Paraguayan writer Augusto Roa Bastos. This letter was answered by Interior Under Secretary Miguel Angel Bestard, whose reply was published by the newspaper ABC COLOR. Mr Bestard's answer included a photocopy of a list whereby Augusto Roa Bastos is reported to have travelled to Cuba on two occasions. All of this has motivated a request for information from Justo Pastor Benitez.

I talked to Mr Bestard this morning and asked him for a reply on this topic. He replied that we should limit ourselves to what he already said about this matter. He said: I would not like to give details. I will only say that I suppose that Dr Ynsfran, who was interior minister at that time, was not fully aware of the reports available at the Interior Ministry because of his numerous activities. The list of persons who travelled to Cuba corresponds to Mr Ynsfran's term as interior minister and it is not an updated list. This what Dr Miguel Angel Bestard wanted to tell me.

Therefore, we think that the deputies submitting the above request for information will have to address Dr Edgar Ynsfran, since the exchange of official information between the U.S. Embassy and the Interior Ministry took place during his term as interior minister. This is the answer Dr Miguel Angel Bestard gave Radio Primero de Marzo just minutes ago.

PRESIDENT ON TERRORISM, FOREIGN PRESS COVERAGE

PY312158 Tacna Radio Tacna in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Democracy will be furthered in Peru through the 1982 municipal election and the 1985 general election despite the terrorist attacks -- which will not disrupt peace in the country -- President Fernando Belaunde Terry said when lashing out at some foreign media over their coverage of the recent terrorist attacks.

He made these remarks at the central ceremony of the 119th anniversary of the Civil Guard. In his speech, the president paid tribute to the policemen [words indistinct] and said that foreign-sponsored terrorist attacks were not the path chosen by Peru. [Passage indistinct]

The president said that no totalitarian country could show us what to do since power in such countries does not stem from the people and since justice is administered from high echelons of power. He said the country's course is clear under the rule of law and that the people are looking toward the 1983 municipal election with hope while terrorists are looking forward to it with great concern because it will disclose how outnumbered they are.

Cites Foreign Intervention

PY312231 Paris AFP in Spanish 2056 GMT 29 Aug 82

[Text] Lima, 29 Aug (AFP) -- Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry said here today that the declaration of the French Committee for the Defense of Human Rights in Peru -- which denounces indiscriminate repression -- is proof of foreign intervention in terrorist activities in the country.

In his regular Sunday press conference, the Peruvian president stated that terrorism is a word plague of which Peru is not free. Peru, however, is experiencing it to a lesser degree than other countries where terrorism has taken on a truly tragic form. Here he was referring to terrorist attacks in France and England.

After reading some paragraphs of a message from French President Francois Mitterrand condemning terrorism, the Peruvian commented on the recent attack in London which left 11 officers of Queen Elizabeth's escort dead.

On expressing hope that prudence and unity will prevail against violence in the world regardless of the ideology of each country since questions of right and wrong are involved, Belaunde stated that terrorists are using weapons which are not used by the armed or police forces in the country.

Then President Belaunde offered as proof of foreign intervention in the country's terrorist activities the creation of the French Committee for the Defense of Human Rights in Peru. He emphasized that when he was overthrown and banished by a military coup in 1968 there was no organization to defend him, nor did he ask for the help of any international organization, because he had no connections abroad and did not want any. But now people are joining the smear campaign against Peru, a campaign which, of course, has had no success in making the world believe that there is no democracy here, Belaunde stated.

After emphasizing that these international organizations have been created to justify and even glorify criminal terrorism, he said that proof of all this is that every time a man who blows up a power pylon or murders a policeman dies, he receives hundreds of letters mailed on cue. Some of them are printed, probably to be sold, because there is much business going on behind all this, he stated.

The Peruvian president also said that these hundreds of letters plead for the rights of those who do not respect the rights of fellow citizens in their own country.

Finally, after reiterating that there is a campaign against Peru, he said that any terrorist act will receive the maximum punishment, that is, terrorism will be considered treason to the fatherland and he will continue insisting on the establishment of capital punishment in these cases.

LE MATIN INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENT BELAUNDE TERRY

PM311501 Paris LE MATIN in French 26 Aug 82 pp 10-11

[President Fernando Belaunde Terry interview by Jean-Pierre Elkabbach on 22 August in Lima]

[Excerpt] Elkabbach: What is the primary objective of the the guerrillas?

Belaunde Terry: The terrorists want to prevent the elections: They know that when elections take place in Peru, I win. I have won two general elections -- in 1963 and 1980 -- and three municipal elections. They are trying to destablize and overthrow the civilian regime, but they will not succeed. I am not afraid of enemies with no courage. I have undertaken a merciless repression of them -- but without cruelty, because I do not want to break national fraternity. The special measures taken on 20 August -- a state of emergency in Lima and the provisional suspension of constitutional guarantees -- should enable us to combat them successfully.

Elkabbach: At Ayacucho in the Andes, the birthplace of Sendero Luminoso [Shining Path], you have sent in the police and "Sinchis," the shock antiterrorist commando troops. Do you still refuse to call in the army?

Belaunde Terry: As far as I am concerned, the troops must stay in their barracks: They are not intended for this kind of action, especially in a democracy. It is the role of the police force to maintain complete control over the country's security. Since my return to power the army has not concerned itself with politics. It is right not to do so: It is better for its prestige. When it led the country for 12 years it became unpopular and the target of criticism. That was too recent for the military not to remember it.

Elkabbach: Who are these terrorists? Whom do they serve? Who arms them? Who finances and helps them?

Belaunde Terry: We have arrested bomb planters. Some of them have talked. The guerrillas existed between 1963 and 1968 during my first presidency. Now, as then, we have proof that the guerrillas are motivated, controlled and organized from abroad: financed, armed and trained from abroad.

Elkabbach: "Abroad" is always the word used. Who is it?

Belaunde Terry: I would be irresponsible to accuse this or that nation, even if I knew... Let us say that "abroad" for me means all those who reject democracy.... I believe it is an international organization having links with the terrorists currently assailing Europe. In Peru it is now a futile venture because mine is a people's government having the people's support. Even the leftwing parties condemn the violence and ask me to suppress it. The aim of the present subversion is to prevent the elections and to establish a government that it calls "revolutionary," because it would abolish the Constitution, parliament and all freedoms, particularly the freedom of the press. On the very day I returned to this palace I warned my ministers: "I will not spend a single night here unless freedom of the press is restored." This was carried out by decree on that first day. The newspapers confiscated by the generals were returned to their owners.

Elkabbach: Is there another way in this country apart from the communists or the generals?

Belaunde Terry: There is I... The people's forces that I represent.

Elkabbach: The next president of the republic will be elected in 1985: Can you survive here 3 years?

Belaunde Terry: The key problem is how to keep the peace until the elections? I intend to continue the democratic experiment in Peru: I will not lapse into military and police authoritarianism because of terrorism and the repressive temptation that it so easliy creates. The Peruvian people know my style of government -- democratic, constitutional and popular. I will maintain it, even if I am obliged to use all the legal forces. I would specify that if the police do not succeed in controlling the terrorists waging war on us, I will then ask the army to act...

Elkabbach: But you are worried...

Belaunde Terry: In this palace one has neither the time nor the opportunity to enjoy oneself: There is always something to worry about.

Elkabbach: Do you ever think about Salvador Allende?

Belaunde Terry: Allende was a very eminent man. We were friends. Allende was a socialist who wanted to impose a socialist republic in Chile. He did not have the majority in his country: He was not elected directly by the people as I was. His support, rather, was parliamentary. This being so, he was unable -- even in Latin America -- to impose such a radical change on the entire Chilean people. I am not pursuing, and will not pursue, Allende's policy: I do not want to impose anything on the Peruvian people. I want to practice democracy. That is all, and quite sufficient!

Elkabbach: Why? Is democracy possible?

Belaunde Terry: It is in Peru, with certain dangers. The Peruvian people chose me under conditions of total freedom, knowing that I do not represent any form of economic power. I am a professional man. I do not forget that terrorist violence feeds on poverty and the social crisis. This is why I want to reduce inequalities, wrest new land from the climate, from the altitude, from great distances.

Elkabbach: Why has the Peruvian population -- especially in the Andes -- been so poor and short of supplies for so long despite the fact that Peru is 2.5 times the size of France and is so rich in its soil and subsoil?

Belaunde Terry: If you take the train from Lima, in 3 hours you reach an altitude of 5,000 meters, higher than Mont Blanco. It took 66 tunnels and 75 bridges to achieve that. This is expensive, as are the roads that I am building now. Never forget the desert coastline, the Andes Mountains -- the Sierra -- and the vast Amazon Jungle. Some years ago I was able to visit the provinces only on horseback. We suffer from what Toynbee called "the geographical challenge." We are a long way from all the markets with the capacity to purchase: the United States, the Common Market and Japan. The whole of Latin America is in a state of crisis, the victim of the worldwide economic war. Mexico, whose economy is three times larger than ours, now has a debt 10 times as large as ours. We compare favorably with Brazil and Argentina.

Elkabbach: So is it possible for it to defend its economic independence?

Belaunde Terry: The Americans have never intervened in Peru as they have in Central America. No marine has ever landed on our coastline... But, it is true, there is a universal threat -- exchange rates. Some 2-3 years ago a ton of copper would buy Peru four machines; now the same ton of copper buys one machine. The price of our raw materials is falling continuously while the price of manufactured goods is rising. Because this is unjust, unreasonable and dangerous, the North-South dialogue must be resumed and the entire international system revised.

GUERRILLAS DYNAMITE BANKS, POLICE STATION

PY312307 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1835 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Lima, 31 Aug (LATIN-REUTER) -- The police reported today that alleged leftist guerrillas have dynamited two banks, a police station and the seat of the local government in Canete, 200 km south of Lima. The attacks reportedly caused damage but no injuries.

The police announced the arrest of six suspicious persons shortly after the attacks yesterday on the occasion of the 426th anniversary of the village of Canete.

The guerrillas presumably belong to the Maoist group Shining Path, which is responsible for the wave of violence which caused the government to declare a state of emergency in Lima and the mountain region of Ayacucho.

In a suburb north of Lima, experts from the police explosives squad defused two bombs today which had been placed at the foot of two high-tension pylons. The guerrillas presumably intended to sabotage the area's electricity supply.

Guerrilla attacks carried out on 19 August against Lima, which has 5 million inhabitants, caused a blackout which lasted for several hours.

BANK EMPLOYEES TO CALL INDEFINITE STRIKE 31 AUG

PY312152 Tacna Radio Tacna in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Excerpts] In a communique, the National Federation of Bank Employees has announced that bank employees will today call a nationwide, indefinite strike to demand salary increases and a number of other gains. The federation is demanding an across-the-board increase of 150,000 soles monthly.

Labor Minister Alfonso Grados Bertorini has said that at this difficult time our fatherland is going through it is no longer appropriate to urge, but the bank employees must be warned to cancel the strike because they must understand that the country needs to have all men at work. He also noted that the federation had not observed the 72-hour deadline required by law to call the strike.

BRIEFS

NEW THAI AMBASSADOR -- Tongchan Jotihasthira, the Thai ambassador to Peru, presented his credentials to President Fernando Belaunde Terry yesterday. [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 18 Aug 82 p A 4 PY]

COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED -- Lima, 21 Aug (AFP) -- A Canadian-Peruvian cooperation agreement was today signed in Tarapoto, located 800 km northeast of Lima in the Amazon region. The agreement was signed by Michael Bell, Canadian ambassador to Peru, on occasion of President Belaunde's visit to that region. The agreement is for carrying out studies on the hydroelectric potential of El Sauce Lake, also known as Azul Lake. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0134 GMT 22 Aug 82 PY]

COCA PRODUCTION -- ICA, 17 Aug (by correspondent) -- Peru produces approximately 20,000 tons of coca leaves. Of this amount, only 1,000 tons are exported for medical and industrial uses. Nine million kg are used for chewing and above 10 million kg are used for the clandestine production of cocaine base and cocaine clorohydrate. This is included in a report submitted to journalists by the 20th Civil Guard precinct. [LIMA EL COMERCIO in Spanish 18 Aug 82 p A 14 PY]

GUYANESE PROPOSAL ON ESSEQUIBO REJECTED IN NOTE

PA310523 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 30 Aug 82

[Text] The Venezuelan reply to Guyana must be given with a sense of nationalism, as it will be the foundation of our country's position in the future, Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco has said.

The foreign minister today delivered to the Guyanese ambassador in Venezuela, Rudolph Collins, the Venezuelan reply to the Guyanese counteroffer on the Essequibo. The official note points out that the Guyanese Government's counterproposal does not conform to the Geneva agreement. The communique adds that the Guyanese Government proposal to discuss the issue before the International Court of Justice is inadequate for the objectives and purposes of the Geneva Convention.

Foreign Minister Zambrano Velasco said the reply must be given with a great sense of nationalism, as it will be part of Venezuela's future position.

[Bridgetown CANA in English at 1859 GMT on 31 August carries a report which cites the Venezuelan reply as saying the following:

"The Venezuelan Government notes with surprise that a friendly invitation to negotiate should be answered once again in terms which do not even manifest any disposition to discuss, or at least listen," it added.

If the two countries fail to agree by mid-September on ways to deal with the problem, their differences will be referred to the secretary general of the United Nations for a decision.]

COPEI NOMINEE CALDERA ADDRESSES PARTY CONGRESS

PA311747 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1829 GMT 28 Aug 82

[Text] Caracas, 28 Aug (LATIN-REUTER) -- Former President Rafael Caldera, who was nominated presidential candidate by his Social Christian COPEI Party last night, urged his followers to "build a strong democracy in a state of law, fully honored, and whose basic element is obedience to the law."

Caldera's nomination as the ruling COPEI's candidate preceded the capitulation of former Interior Minister Rafael Andres Montes de Oca, who had been nominated by some sectors of the Social Christian Party.

Rafael Caldera was therefore nominated by acclamation by the second Social Christian Congress that ended last night at the Polyhedron, a covered stadium built during the former president's administration, 1969-1974.

The nomination ceremony was attended by delegations from Latin American Christian Democratic parties, including former Salvadoran President Napoleon Duarte and former Colombian President Misael Pastrana Borrero.

In his speech, broadcast over a national network of radio stations and one television channel, the COPEI candidate said: "I offer the country my experience and my knowledge of Venezuela and its people, in which I believe I can be surpassed by no one.

"One has to learn to be president and this is learned by being president. I have completed this apprenticeship and I want to arrive with clear ideas from the first moment on what I have to do and who is going to accompany me."

During the election campaign for the 1983 general elections, Caldera must run against Jaime Lusinchi, the principal candidate of the opposition's Democratic Action, of Social Democratic tendency.

'ANTI-REPRESSION' GROUP STAGES DEMONSTRATION

FL312155 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2055 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Mexico City, 31 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- Nearly 100 members of the so-called National Front Against Repression [Frente Nacional Contra la Represion] led by Marcelo Rubio Gonzalez held a rally this morning at the Zocalo, the main square in Mexico City.

The demonstrators, who wore masks and capes with the front's emblem, said they were represented by Rosario Ibarra de Piedra, the presidential candidate for the Revolutionary Workers Party.

PRESIDENT APPEALS FOR CONGRESS' UNDERSTANDING

FL010045 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2315 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 31 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- I firmly believe in what I will say tomorrow in my last report, President Jose Lopez Portillo said today, asking the Mexican Congress for understanding in the certainty that his decisions would be guided by the general interest. The president was addressing members of the 52d legislature headed by Juan Jose Osorio.

Lopez Portillo said that institutions were structures that safeguarded continuity: new men, same functions. We have ahead of us 3 months of productive work during which the executive branch will continue to fulfill its responsibility and you yourselves have your own to fulfill; but we all have to do so at the head of the nation to which we belong and to which we owe more than solidarity -- we owe it loyalty, he said.

Earlier Lopez Portillo received the members of the standing committee headed by Luis Marcelino Farias which concluded its work today. He told them that he would make proposals for the next 90 days in his state of the union address. The president said to the members of the 51st legislature that they should be deeply satisfied with what they had written on the pages of Mexican history.

SENATE PRESIDENT, OTHER OFFICERS SWORN IN

FL310305 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2207 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 31 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- The legislative branch will play an important role in reinforcing and defining the country's new course, said Senator Miguel Gonzalez Avelar in assuming office today as the new Senate president in the 52d legislature.

Antonio Riva Palacio and Norberto Mora Plancarte were named vice presidents during the ceremony along with Fernando Mendoza Contreras, Armando Trasuina, Silvia Hernandez and Alonso Segbe as secretaries and Rafael Cervantes Acuna, Manuel Ramos Gurrion, Manuel Villafuerte and Mario del Carmen Marquez as alternate secretaries. Sixty-four legislators were also sworn in for the 1 September 1982-31 August 1988 term.

DEPUTY SAYS LABOR SUPPORTS PACT WITH PRESIDENT

FL312250 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2050 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 31 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- Deputy Juan Jose Osorio Palacios today reiterated labor's support for the pact contracted with President Jose Lopez Portillo and charged that the president was betrayed by those who put their own interests ahead of those of the nation.

Osorio Palacios spoke at the closing session of the Chamber of Deputies' electoral college, saying that all the Mexican people will have to unite in support of a common policy to defend the revolutionary process against rumors and groundless criticism.

PRESS SECRETARY DENIES, CONDEMNS RECENT RUMORS

FL010129 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2335 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Mexico City, 31 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- The country's social peace has never been threatened by rumors and cowardly actions, Presidential Press Secretary Francisco Galindo Ochoa said today.

The official said that President Jose Lopez Portillo's state of the union address will explain the reasons that forced the nation to take certain economic measures. This, he said, will put an end to the campaign of rumors.

Galindo Ochoa said that in recent days some foreign news agencies picked up and spread rumors about assassinations, attacks and even coups d'etat, which, he emphasized, are totally false.

Concerning the distribution of leaflets full of lies and rumors, the presidential spokesman described them as cowardly and perverse actions by bad Mexicans who think in terms of dollars, although they live and spend in pesos. He said that these persons act this way possibly because they were affected by the recent foreign exchange measures adopted by the federal government.

Galindo Ochoa asserted that the Mexican Armed Forces are steadfast in their support and loyalty to the president of the republic. At no time has the country's tranquillity been threatened, he stressed.

Political Leaders Comment

PA010045 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Pedro Ojeda Paullada has asked the Mexican people to have confidence in the country's institutions. The national leader of the PRI urged the Mexican people today to reject rumors and to show confidence in the country's institutions.

While inaugurating the first stage of the great national literacy crusade, Ojeda Paullada condemned those who use rumors in an effort to destabilize the country. He said that this kind of attack must serve to reinforce confidence in Mexico's Government and institutions rather than dividing the Mexican people.

(Aurelio Tamez Garcia), president of the National Association of Business Leaders, declared that the rumor campaign is the work of Mexican traitors and sick minds. (Tamez Garcia) agreed with the PRI leader adding that, despite the current situation, the Mexican people must have confidence in their institutions and remain calm. Wailing, shouting and spreading rumors will not solve our economic situation, he said.

In separate interview (Salvador Perez Rincon), president of the National Confederation of Small Businessmen, and (Rafael Suarez), president of the Mexican Association of Hotels and Motels, expressed similar opinions in condemning the rumor campaign. (Perez Rincon), leader of more than 50,000 businessmen, said that their organization will demonstrate its support for the nation and for President Lopez Portillo's policy. (Rafael Suarez) said that when bad Mexicans create confusion and instability through rumors, all industries are endangered, including tourism.

NICARAGUANS TO ATTEND LOPEZ PORTILLO ADDRESS

FL311315 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0246 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Mexico City, 30 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- A delegation of six Nicaraguan officials will attend President Jose Lopez Portillo's sixth and final state of the union message, diplomatic sources announced here today.

The delegation will be made up by Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock; Brig Comdr Joaquin Cuadra Lacayo, chief of staff of the Sandinist People's Army; Guerilla Comdr (Monica Voltadano), minister secretary of the government junta; Jose Leon Talavera, director of FSLN foreign relations; Aurora Zamora, deputy chief of the [Nicaraguan] embassy's Mexican department; and Fernando Cardenal, member of the National Executive Bureau [Ejecutivo Nacional] of the 19 July Sandinist Youth [Juventud Sandinista 19 de Julio].

The Sandinist government representatives are expected to arrive here this morning.

WESTERN BANKS GRANT $1.85 BILLION CREDIT

FL302128 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2050 GMT 30 Aug 82

[Text] Mexico City, 30 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- The Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit (SHCP) today confirmed that the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, had granted Mexico a $1.85 billion credit.

The credit is backed by the central banks of 11 countries, including the United States, and it is the first time that it has been granted to a developing country by a group of banks in industrialized countries, the SHCP said. The SHCP indicated that Mexico had already received $925 million of the total amount.

The Bank of Mexico was authorized to handle the credit by the central banks of the FRG, Belgium, Canada, France, the Netherlands, UK, Italy, Japan, Sweden, Switzerland and U.S. financial authorities, according to the BIS, the SHCP reported.

OAS' ORFILA, CASTANEDA DISCUSS L.A. SUMMIT

FL010111 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2330 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 31 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- OAS Secretary General Alejandro Orfila said here today that Mexico has enough human and material resources to deal with its financial problem. In a statement to the press, Orfila said that the only suggestion he could give was for Mexicans to believe in Mexicans. He said that the present crisis was a great opportunity for the Mexican people and Government to build up the nation.

Orfila reported that he met with Mexican Foreign Secretary Jorge Castaneda and they explored the possibility of a meeting of Latin American presidents as well as a preparatory meeting of foreign ministers.

BRIEFS

NEW FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL -- Mexico City, 30 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- Today Mexican Foreign Minister Jorge Castaneda swore in Marcelo Vargas as general director of the Foreign Ministry's Regional Organizations Department. Vargas replaces Ignacio Villasenor, who has been appointed to the Mexican Embassy in Washington. [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2240 GMT 30 Aug 82 FL]

PEMEX JANUARY-MAY SALES -- Mexico City, 31 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- Pemex reported today that local sales from January to May amounted to 59,589,800,000 pesos. It added that in petroleum by products alone sales amounted to 48.2 billion pesos. Income from petrochemical products amounted to 10,887,000,000 pesos. [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2235 GMT 31 Aug 82 FL]

COSTA RICA

FORMER SECURITY MINISTER FORMS POLITICAL PARTY

PA010243 Paris AFP in Spanish 0131 GMT 1 Sep 82

[Excerpts] San Jose, 31 Aug (AFP) -- An appeal to solve the Costa Rican crisis "with radical measures but within the framework of democratic institutions" was made today by former Public Security Minister Juan Jose Echeverria as he announced the formation of a new party, a "center-left" group, in his own words.

Spent by a severe economic crisis and caught in the turmoil in Central America, "the country's political system could explode unless corrective measures are promptly taken," the 42-year old former minister, a lawyer and experienced politician, said in announcing the formation of the radical Democratic Party [Partido Radical Democrata -- PRD].

He told the press today about the creation of a party that will try to attract sectors located "to the left of center," borrowing a phrase attributed to the slain U.S. President John Kennedy, to the effect that "all who make peaceful revolution impossible make violent revolution unavoidable."

The former minister and leader of the new political party did not express belief, however, in the existence of any "destabilization plan" to end Costa Rican democracy, in contradiction to statements to that effect made by incumbent President Luis Alberto Monge.

EL SALVADOR

EXECUTIVE DECREE IMPLEMENTS APANECA PACT

PA010030 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 2327 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Executive Decree No 121 issued by Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana; read by unidentified official at ceremony at Presidential Palace in San Salvador -- live]

[Text] Alvaro Magana, president of the republic, considering:

1. That on 3 August 1982, in the city of Apaneca, he signed a document with representatives of four political parties by which the government's basic platform was adopted;

2. That this document establishes the basic principles of the government of national unity, summarized in the following objectives: pacification, democratization, full enforcement of human rights, economic recovery, consolidation of reforms, the attainment of institutional trust and security and the bolstering of international relations;

3. That the document entails a program of immediate action involving the creation of a political commission, a peace commission and a human rights commission;

4. That in order to facilitate this action program it is imperative to establish these commissions; therefore, in the exercise of his legal functions, he agrees to create the following commissions:

A Political Commission, which will coordinate the execution of and compliance with the government's basic platform, conforming to the commitments established in the document signed at Apaneca, and which will comprise the president of the republic, who will act as coordinator; the vice presidents of the republic; the ministers of foreign relations, defense and public security; and representatives of the political parties that cosigned the agreement.

A Human Rights Commission, which will protect, watch over and promote human rights, particularly those recognized by the political constitution and international conventions, and which will comprise institutions, groups and people to be appointed by executive decree.

A Peace Commission, which will study problems related to the reestablishment of peace and which will propose solutions that will permit permanent domestic harmony and stability, to comprise institutions, groups and people to be appointed by executive decree.

Released at the Presidential Palace, San Salvador, on 27 August 1982.

[Signed] Alvaro Magana, president of the republic; Francisco Jose Guerrero, minister of the Presidency

Political Commission Formed

PA010032 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 2327 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Agreement No 124 issued by Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana; read by unidentified official at ceremony at Presidential Palace in San Salvador -- live]

[Text] The executive branch of the Republic of El Salvador, in the exercise of its legal functions, agrees to create the Political Commission established by Presidential Decree No 121, of 27 August 1982, as follows:

Coordinator of the commission, Dr Alvaro Magana, president of the republic. Members: Raul Molina Martinez, first vice president of the republic; Dr Gabriel Mauricio Gutierrez Castro, second vice president of the republic; Dr Pablo Mauricio Alvergue, third vice president of the republic; Dr Fidel Chavez Mena, minister of foreign relations; Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia, minister of defense and public security; Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson, representative of the Nationalist Republican Alliance; Benjamin Wilfredo Navarrette, representative of the National Conciliation Party; Francisco Quinones Avila, representative of the Salvadoran Peoples Party.

Released at the Presidential Palace in San Salvador on 30 August 1982.

[Signed] Alvaro Magana, president of the republic; Francisco Jose Guerrero, minister of the Presidency

FDR SEEKS DIALOGUE WITH DEMOCRATIC SECTORS

PA301715 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2039 GMT 28 Aug 82

[Text] San Jose, 28 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Political committee members of the Revolutionary Democratic Front, FDR, of El Salvador announced here today their willingness to hold a dialogue with all those who are victims of repression in their country, especially with leaders of the Christian Democracy.

Ruben Zamora, executive of the FDR political committee, said this attitude is within the framework of "political convergence" that seeks a political solution for El Salvador, "with the participation of all the forces that have a democratic role, and which are consequently being attacked by the fascist sectors" of his country.

Zamora said that both the FDR and the FMLN have propitiated and sought a dialogue with all the politically important forces, now including Christian Democracy, the union of democratic parties [UPD] and the Catholic Church.

In relation to the latest pastoral letter from the Salvadoran bishops, where they recommend an ample dialogue to find the solution that all the Salvadorans' needs, Ruben Zamora said it has the complete support of the FDR and the FMLN.

Referring to the speech by Thomas O. Enders, U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, the executive of the FDR political committee said Enders' speech contains false facts concerning the justification and origins of the war in El Salvador. However, he said that the speech also has some positive aspects.

Among the positive aspects, Ruben Zamora said that the most relevant one is the proposal to start a dialogue, "to generate answers so as to establish a favorable atmosphere for a solution to the Salvadoran conflict, and so that the opposition can replace armed struggle with political struggle, limiting at the same time foreign intervention."

Zamora stressed that it has been the FDR and FMLN that have struggled more to achieve a political rather than a military solution to the conflict, and they have insisted that "we are at war not because we want armed violence but because military and oligarchic governments have closed the paths to political struggle."

The FDR spokesman established some conditions for a dialogue. He asked for "tangible signs," such as "the release of political prisoners, reopening of the university, lifting of the state of siege, an end to repression against the people, reopening of the communication media, abrogation of emergency decrees and free return of political dissidents."

FMLN-FDR REPRESENTATIVE DECRIES SYMMS AMENDMENT

PA301700 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Aug 82

[Pedro Martinez Pirez interview with Margarita Gonzalez, member of the Revolutionary Democratic Front-FMLN "representation" in Cuba, at headquarters in Havana; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Margarita, I have come to the headquarters of the Revolutionary Democratic Front-FMLN in Havana to learn your opinion of the Symms Amendment. What does that pseudo-legal instrument of the United States mean with regard to Central America and the Caribbean?

[Answer] To the revolutionaries, this new measure of the U.S. Senate is very important and significant because through it, the United States, or better said, the Senate, gives full powers to the U.S. President to undertake any military action in the Central American and Caribbean region. We must bear in mind that this has serious repercussions in any region of the world because the objective of this U.S. measure is to set a precedent, indicating that it can militarily act anywhere in the world. In other words, it is not an issue which is solely of interest to the Central American and Caribbean peoples. All the people of the world who struggle against U.S. imperialism should be alert and work so that this measure will not be implemented. At this time, that measure directly attacks Central America, particularly El Salvador, and Cuba which is the first free territory of America and an example and beacon of freedom for the Latin American countries.

[Question] Some Latin American personalities have said that Symms Amendment is in a certain sense the continuation of the Monroe Doctrine. What do you think?

[Answer] We think that it has much more serious repercussions than the Monroe Doctrine. It has more serious repercussions because Latin America is being attacked right now, but the United States can subsequently attack any country and region of the world because the U.S. President has been given full powers to militarily attack wherever he pleases. In other words, they are preparing the way to be able to militarily act wherever they please.

[Question] Margarita, some observers have indicated that along with the Symms Amendment, the United States has recently developed a so-called Caribbean Basin plan and has promoted the creation of a so-called Central American Democratic Community. Do you see a connection between these measures by imperialist?

[Answer] Yes, they are related because they are part of the aggressive plans and the efforts to stop the revolutionary processes and movements that are being carried out in the Central American countries. The Central American and Caribbean region is a serious problem for imperialism. The situation of poverty and misery experienced by the countries of this region for years is very serious. It is there that poverty is so evident and tangible. No country has exported poverty to another people. People have lived in those conditions, and in view of their poverty they have opened their eyes and believe that they must liberate themselves.

Now then, through the plan of the Central American Democratic Community and the mini-Marshall Plan, the United States seeks to take political measures that will conceal future military actions.

[Question] Margarita, talking about the domestic political situation in El Salvador, Ligia Escalante, the wife of Roberto Serrano, Salvadoran under secretary of education, was recently arrested in San Salvador. Central American commentators indicated that this could be a maneuver of the Salvadoran extreme rightwing to expel Christian Democracy from the government. What do you think?

[Answer] Since the 28 March elections, the frequent sidelining of Christian Democracy has been seen and felt in El Salvador. In those elections, the United States had wanted Christian Democracy to win so as to continue leading the government. However, the extreme rightwing and the rightwing did not permit this. To the degree that the extreme rightwing and the rightwing do not permit Christian Democracy to occupy important posts in the government, it is evident that Christian Democracy is increasingly being sidelined. The arrest of the under secretary of education [as heard] means that the extreme rightwing and the rightwing want to crush and completely destroy Christian Democracy. However, the few members of Christian Democracy who are still in the government and who are seriously committed with the rightwing and the extreme rightwing as a result of their past actions continue to cooperate with them despite the fact that they are daily rejected. This is shown by the fact that Christian Democractic mayors are killed, kidnapped or disappear.

[Question] Does this show the junta's instability and the serious contradictions which exist in the Salvadoran Government?

[Answer] Yes, this shows that the contradictions and the internal struggles within the Salvadoran Government exist and they will exist as long as we do not participate in a revolutionary democratic government.

GUATEMALA

RIOS MONTT RESIGNS DEFENSE MINISTER POST

PA010150 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0124 GMT 1 Sept 82

[Excerpts] Guatemala City, 31 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Guatemalan President Gen Efrain Rios Montt resigned as defense minister, a post he has held since 23 March, because of an excess of work as head of state, according to an announcement made today by Manuel de Jesus Giron Sanchez, secretary general of the presidency.

When the "young militarymen" overthrew Gen Romeo Lucas Garcia in a bloodless coup d'etat on 23 March and called on two generals and one colonel to form a triumvirate to rule the country, Rios Montt was appointed president of the junta and defense minister.

Giron Sanchez pointed out that though he has resigned as minister, Rios Montt maintains control of the army as commander in chief of the armed forces, in accordance with the government's fundamental statute, which replaced the constitution that was nullified by the military coup. Gen Oscar Mejia Victores, who until now held the post of deputy defense minister, will officially assume the post of defense minister tomorrow.

ARMY REPORTS ATTACKS ON SUBVERSIVES IN EL QUICHE

PA310631 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 21 Aug 82 p 2

[Text] The army discovered a subversive camp on the slopes of Tajumulco volcano on Thursday at approximately 1000. An armed clash occurred at the time of the discovery, leaving a total of 11 subversives, 1 soldier and 1 civil patrolman dead.

The information supplied by the army regarding this discovery and armed clash is as follows:

An armed action occurred yesterday, Thursday, at 1000, when soldiers discovered a subversive camp on the slopes of Tajumulco volcano in the jurisdiction and municipality of the same name, in San Marcos Department. As a result of this action, seven subversives were killed and an unknown number of wounded were taken away by their companeros when they fled.

Unfortunately, a soldier first class, Urbano Carranza Escobar, was killed in this action. After the required autopsy was performed, his body was transferred to his home for a Christian burial.

After the armed clash the army recovered the weapons of the dead and of the wounded who fled from the site, as well food, medicines and clothing.

Likewise, the civil self-defense patrol of the place called "Poligono 20" in Ixcan Grande, Uspantan jurisdiction, El Quiche Department, clashed with a subversive group at 1150 yesterday. The clash occurred when subversives were trying to enter the patrol's village -- probably to occupy or burn it -- and the action left four subversives and one patrolman dead.

The Armed Forces Institute regrets the deaths of soldier Carranza Escobar and of civil patrolman and presents its heartfelt condolences to their families as well as the feelings of the Guatemalan people, who suffer limitations and difficulties but face them knowing that we must all contribute toward the pacification of our country.

SELF-DEFENSE PATROLS CLASH WITH GUERRILLAS

PA010058 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] The patriotic actions reflecting the civilian population's emphatic rejection of rural terrorism permitted the civilian self-defense patrol of (Chiman), San Martin municipality in Chimaltenango Department, to confront a subversive group at 1800 on 28 August. Ten subversives died in this clash, but, unfortunately, the fleeing rebels killed five peasants and three women in reprisal for their defeat.

At 0230 on 26 August, another civilian self-defense patrol confronted a subversive group, killing two subversives and seized valuable information on the activities and operations of these clandestine groups. This armed action occurred in Playa Grande, El Quiche Department.

In both actions, the weapons of slain rebels were seized, along with other personal equipment.

Early this morning, subversives operating in the area of Chimaltenango Department attacked three remote towns called Sargento, [words indistinct] in (San Martin Jinotepeque), where, according to official reports, property belonging to the local residents was looted and burned and a still undetermined number of inhabitants were killed. Army units immediately began to search for the attackers and offered protection to the survivors.

In reporting these incidents, the Guatemalan Army reaffirms to the people that it is firmly determined to stop subversive crime and wishes to express its great pleasure with the civilian population's determined support for the achievement of this goal.

FAR REPORTS 59 CASUALTIES INFLICTED ON ARMY

PA312344 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Guatemala City -- A war report issued by the Rebel Armed Forces, FAR, indicates that the Guatemalan Army sustained 59 casualties from 15 August to 24 August. The guerrilla organization added that since General Rios Montt's rise to power in March, more than 8,000 people, most of them elderly, women and children, have been murdered by the government's troops.

BELIZEAN PARTY LEADER ASKS ABOUT BORDER INCIDENT

PA310549 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 22 Aug 82 p 8

[Text] Theodore Aranda, leader of the United People's Democratic Party [UDP], will ask the Guatemalan Government to investigate the whereabouts of two Belizeans who were allegedly captured by border authorities in Melchor de Mencos, Peten.

According to Aranda, the case concerns Donato Ayala and Francisco Banos, who were arrested by security agents on 11 August.

He told the government that if they committed a crime they should be brought before the appropriate court; otherwise, they should be released. He added that there had never before been any problems of this kind for Belizean citizens on the border at Melchor de Mencos.

What the Guatemalan Authorities Say

Reporters of this newspaper consulted Government Minister Col Ricardo Mendez Ruiz and Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola on this matter yesterday. They said that they had no official information on the arrest of the two Belizeans.

However, they said, they will request information from the Melchor de Mencos authorities in order to establish what really happened there.

SPECIAL UNIT SEARCHES FOR REBELS IN CAPITAL

PA311716 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 30 Aug 82 p 25

[Text] The "Cobra" group launched a large operation in the Jardines de Loarque neighborhood on Saturday afternoon to search a house that was thought to be a guerrilla redoubt. According to Tegucigalpa residents, the police, went to the neighborhood in trucks and even two armored cars.

The area residents were alarmed because they anticipated a big clash similar to the one which occurred in the "Florencia Sur" neighborhood when a guerrilla group was surrounded. However, no guerrillas were found in this house. Therefore, by 1745 the "Cobras" decided to leave.

This operation is linked to a similar one carried out in San Francisco neighborhood carried out on the previous Saturday. It is probable that one of those arrested supplied this Jardines de Loarque address. A group of guerrillas was found in this same neighborhood a few months ago. Some guerrillas were killed and others were arrested during that operation.

HONDURAS

GOVERNMENT DENIES IT WILL FIRE 8,000 EMPLOYEES

PA311344 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 30 Aug 82 p 16

[Text] It was reported that it is not true that the Liberal administration, "for the sake of austerity," is planning to dismiss some 8,000 public employees as was reported by Civil Service Director Max Gil Santos. It was said that Santos' statement was distorted by reporters and apparently the official made some confusing remarks saying that the government will not authorize wage increases for public servants.

"Ever since the government took over, and as a result of an austerity policy, it has saved approximately 20 million lempiras by cutting down on personnel as well as by reducing expenses for office equipment, travel allowances and fuel," Santos said in an interview.

He added that the dismissals are being based on technical studies on the organization of government offices and this is how evaluations are made for reductions in government staffing.

EDUCATION SECRETARY ON PROBLEMS WITH TEACHERS

PA311925 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Interview with Honduran Education Secretary Alma Rodas de Fiallos in Tegucigalpa on 30 August -- recorded]

[Text] [Rodas de Fiallos] The government maintains its position of assigning jobs to the teachers who have been displaced from their posts. This represents a large expenditure of money by the government, since new posts will have to be created so that no teacher will be left without a job. We will also see to it that reassignments of teachers to new posts will be done in conditions which are favorable to the teachers. We have said that we do not want to affect the interests of the teachers. We have even invited the teachers' leaders so that together we can analyze the situation of each teacher. I must state that even though the government's position is that of first of all protecting the new teachers who have been assigned to the schools, the situation is solving itself in each of the schools. Agreements have been reached. Sometimes the children preferred the old teacher and the new and the old teachers reached agreement by themselves and then the new teacher was the one who came back to the Education Secretariat to report for a new assignment. Such a solution was based on their own private agreement. The government continues to maintain its position of placing all the teachers, both the old and the recently assigned teachers.

[Question] What will the secretariat do in view of the fact that the teachers have issued a call to remain alert? Do you think there is a possibility of a new strike?

[Answer] You say the teachers, but the ones who spoke with me a few minutes ago were the teachers' leaders, the same ones who led the 30,000 teachers out to strike without any sense of logic or responsibility. If they were irresponsible in ordering an indefinite strike when all the alternatives of dialogue had yet to be exhausted, they would also be irresponsible if they now provoked another movement. However, I think with this past experience we now know each other very well, and the teachers will decide whether they once again will follow them.

[Question] The leaders of the Honduran Teachers Unity Front [FUMH] have said you are a liar. What is your comment?

[Answer] I could call them a lot of things, but I do not plan to reply to public insults. Therefore, I would rather not reply to such insults.

[Question] Will the government yield to the teachers' demand if they announce a new strike?

[Answer] The government has clearly expressed its intention of solving this problem in such a way that no teacher will be left unemployed. I think that is a lot of the part of the government.

[Question] Can the teachers be described as intransigent in view of wanting to return to their old posts?

[Answer] Yes, the position of the teachers' leaders can be described as that, because there is a great difference between these teachers' leaders and the teachers. The majority of the teachers are aware and responsible. They [words indistinct]; their anger this afternoon is due to the fact that they want the teachers to be reassigned to their old post. For example, they want the director of the Central Institute to once again be re-appointed in the same post and not to be appointed to another post in the secretariat. This might be an intransigent position on their part.

[Question] The teachers' leaders have said that the problem can be solved by giving back the teachers their old jobs. Why doesn't the government do this?

[Answer] I must state that the teachers were at fault.

[Question] Regarding the problem of the students of the Central Institute and the (Igueras) Institute who do not accept the teachers who have been recently appointed, what can you tell us about this?

[Answer] Regarding the case of the (Igueras) Institute, (Normanda Martinez), who is the only teacher who has been replaced, is inciting the students and teachers to support her. The same thing is occurring in the Central Instututе. The director and some teachers who were replaced are doing the same thing. We have taken measures to solve this situation.

[Question] The FUMH leaders said that on Saturday you promised to reintegrate the teachers. Why isn't this being carried out today?

[Answer] I would like to clarify this. On Saturday I gave them the note in which the government agreed to discuss the subject of the reintegration of the teachers once the dialogue had begun and once the education activities were back to normal. I told them on that occasion that I had obtained the government approval of new posts so that the teachers could be assigned to them. That was precisely my promise which, as I said earlier, represents a large expenditure of money to open new posts so that no one will be left unemployed. However, they are bent on having the teachers return to their old posts. That is a capricious attitude on their part.

[Question] Could it be said that the teachers' movement is becoming politicized since on Friday, the army found subversive material in the Central Institute?

[Answer] Yes, we have that problem in education. It is very big. In the secondary schools we already have very politicized fronts following imported political guidelines foreign to our own ideology. This is done almost with impunity. It is to these fronts [words indistinct] to achieve support. We are very concerned about this situation. This is what I would like the majority of the teachers to see [words indistinct].

NICARAGUA

BORGE PLANS TO KEEP TRAVEL ABROAD 'SHORT'

PA311700 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Excerpts] I will only be out of the country only for a few days because of Nicaragua's situation. Nicaragua is a victim of constant aggression.

Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge said this to newsmen who interviewed him shortly before he left for Bulgaria and the USSR. [Begin Borge recording] We will keep our stay there short due to our country's difficult situation. We always have to think of the possibility of an emergency. As you know, our country is being threatened and we don't like to stay abroad, even if it is in a friendly country, while our homeland is being threatened. Therefore, we are responding to this invitation but, in view of our people's difficulties, we will try to return to their side as soon as possible. [end recording]

WHEELOCK IN MEXICO; TO MEET WITH LOPEZ PORTILLO

PA010312 Managua International Service in Spanish 0230 GMT 1 Sep 82

[Text] Jaime Wheelock Roman, Nicaraguan minister of agricultural development and agrarian reform, has arrived in Mexico where he will meet with President Jose Lopez Portillo. He was seen off at the Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, who said that the cost of fuel in Nicaragua has been reduced by 10 percent.

ENVOY TO MEXICO IMPUGNS HONDURAN PEACE PROPOSAL

PA311709 Managua International Service in Spanish 0230 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Mauricio Cuadra Schultz, Nicaraguan ambassador to Mexico, has said that as long as the United States uses Honduras as a platform to attack, and prepare war in the Central American region, our country can't trust the Honduran peace initiative for the area.

GOVERNMENT FREES PRISONERS SAID TO AID REBELS

PA010324 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 27 Aug 82 p 8

[By Fausto Hernandez]

[Text] It has been reported that 67 prisoners, who were being tried for cooperating with the counterrevolutionary bands in the municipality of Rio Blanco, were freed yesterday.

Last month in Matagalpa, Commanders of the Revolution Victor Tirado Lopez and Henry Ruiz promised the prisoners' release to members of the National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen [UNAG] and to the prisoners' relatives.

The Matagalpa authorities turned the freed prisoners over to UNAG leaders at Matagalpa, who in turn took them to Rio Blanco to return them to their relatives.

JUNTA ORDERS FARMS RETURNED TO FORMER OWNERS

PA310541 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Aug 82

[Text] Managua -- The government junta has ordered the minister of agriculture development and agrarian reform to return three large farms that had been seized from their owners, who were accused of being involved with the Somozists.

Rodrigo Reyes Portocarrero, minister secretary of the junta, sent a message to Minister Jaime Wheelock asking him to comply with the Supreme Court ruling ordering the return of the farms, which had been turned over to the agrarian reform. The farms, located in the Departments of Chontales, Masaya and Matagalpa, must be returned to their legitimate owners in the same condition as when as they were seized, the newspaper LA PRENSA reported yesterday.

ARCHBISHOP WILLING TO TALK WITH GOVERNMENT

PA311637 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1723 GMT 29 Aug 82

[Text] Managua, 29 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo, the archbishop of Managua, has said that he is willing to be part of a commission to hold talks with the Sandinist authorities, if the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference approves it.

In an exclusive interview granted to ACAN-EFE, the religious leader said that a commission will be appointed if the conference of bishops is invited to hold talks with the government.

"We are disciplined persons, and if the Episcopal Conference says that Monsignor Obando should be present, I will not refuse -- but only at the level of a formal conference," said the archbishop at the Curia building in Managua.

The priest said that as a man of peace he would like good relations to exist between the church and the state. "The church and the people together could work for true peace, where we would all respect each other and avoid spreading hate, because hate is powerful and provokes aggression," he said.

He revealed that a week ago the Sandinist Front asked for a dialogue with a commission of bishops and that it suggested the names of prelates with whom it wanted to hold talks.

He said that "in order to demonstrate good faith," the church authorities agreed to the names that the Sandinist Front had suggested, but added the name of Msgr Bosco Vivas, auxiliary bishop of Managua, to the list. "The hierarchy has always been willing to talk. We have never refused," he said.

"Naturally, sometimes there are misunderstandings. On this occasion the government gave the names of persons with whom it wanted to hold talks and we only added Monsignor Vivas. However, afterwards, there have been rumors that Monsignor Obando refused to participate in the talks," said the archbishop.

He added that if the Sandinists suggested names and the Episcopal Conference added only one more person, "one should not be going around saying that monsignor has refused to talk."

Regarding the factors that have caused a rift between the government and the bishops, the archbishop said that the church does not try to confront anyone. The church is interested in spreading the word of Christ, who died and was resurrected to have peace and respect for human rights.

"The church is not looking for a confrontation with anyone. The church and the hierarchy are people of peace, but of a peace based on truth, justice and freedom," said the archbishop.

When asked whether he agreed with the opinion of certain political sectors of the country that recently the tension between the hierarchy and the government have eased, Monsignor Obando replied, "it is good for the tensions to ease."

"I am overjoyed that the problem of the Salesian fathers with the school in Masaya has been solved, but I deplore that Father Jose Moratalla had to leave the country since I consider him an active and dedicated man in his work. He is not a politician but a dynamic youth and a good teacher," said Obando.

He said that he believes that for the difficult situation of Nicaragua to improve, in this country "we must speak a language of peace and support this with actions that demonstrate that we are men of peace."

Obando added that "one has to be very careful in the handling of the media because when one maintains an aggressive language of insults, hate and harassment, people get upset and this could cause friction."

The Managua archbishop emphasized that "an effort would have to be made by all sectors to search for this language of peace."

Monsignor Obando y Bravo, who during the Somoza regime maintained an inflexible attitude against the abuses and arbitrary actions of the authorities of the time, has been labeled by some sectors of the present revolutionary government the most "intransigent" of the Nicaraguan bishops.

Referring to this, the archbishop replied, "In fact, the Episcopal Conference has always faced the problems as a group and not one pastoral letter exists expressing the opposition of any bishop."

He referred to the recent letter sent by Pope John Paul II to the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference, pointing out that in it the pope emphasized the unity that the bishops of Nicaragua have maintained and the fact that they are not alone.

In reference to a Nicaraguan leader's charge that the majority of the friction between the church and the state has occurred in the Managua archdiocese, Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo replied that the problems are dealt with wherever they occur.

"The problem that occurred with the Miskitos did not originate in Managua but on the Atlantic coast. It is logical that if there are problems in Managua, such as the case of Father Carballo, they are dealt with in the capital and the archbishop will be involved," he added.

During his 1-hour interview with two journalists from ACAN-EFE, the archbishop always expressed his desire for peace and tranquillity to prevail in Nicaragua, emphasizing that the Catholic priests are men of peace.

"We did not provoke the case of Monimbo on 14 August while I was holding a regular mass, which I have been doing for 2 years. However, something was provoked there that did not depend on us and some persons were even wounded. The same thing occurred recently in the church of Las Brisas, in Managua," he said.

"Something was also provoked in the Managua church of "Maria Mazarello," when the charismatics were praying and I arrived. When I left the church, I saw people who had head injuries from being stoned. Logically, when someone sees that his wife's head has been split open, he feels like throwing stones at those on the other side."

The archbishop did not attach very much importanct to the death threats that he has been receiving by telephone during the last few weeks. He replied simply: "I have received threats but I am a man of the church and I believe that we are in the hands of God."

He labeled the recent events in the country as negative because they create tension that does not favor anyone, "either the church or the revolution, since everything is disseminated abroad and the image of the revolution suffers."

REVOLUTIONARY CHRISTIANS CALL FOR DIALOGUE

PA310534 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1614 GMT 30 Aug 82

[Text] Managua, 30 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- In a lengthy document released here today, the Community of Christians in the Revolution says that "it is necessary and urgent to reestablish a church-state dialogue."

The document's signatories, among them two ministers, also say that communication channels between Nicaraguan bishops and the government "that were not properly used" must be reopened.

The Christians in the Revolution also say that under orders from Pope John Paul II "the mission of seeking Catholic unity" falls to the bishops. The revolutionary Christians add that "you (the bishops), who have been chosen for the episcopate because of your virtures -- and humility should be outstanding among those virtues -- must also seek an understanding between church and state in order to save this increasingly critical situation."

According to the Christians in the Revolution, the Episcopal Conference includes bishops who are objective, cool, dispassionate and prone to dialogue and understanding, but "there are also attitudes in some church sectors that are clearly provocative and certainly unwise. We view these with concern and grief."

The document, which was also signed by Education Minister Carlos Tunnerman and Settlements and Housing Minister Ernesto Vigil, expressed hope over the conciliatory statements made by Leon Bishop Msgr Julian Barni and Matagalpa Bishop Msgr Carlos Santi upon taking over their dioceses. The revolutionary Christians tell the pastors that make up the Episcopal Conference of Nicaragua: "For God's sake, make an effort at conciliation."

PETRONIC ANNOUNCES NEW FUEL DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

PA281742 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 27 Aug 82

[Communique issued by the publication, press and public relations office of Nicaraguan Petroleum, Petronic, in Managua on 27 August 1982 -- read by announcer]

[Text] Nicaraguan Petroleum, Petronic, informs the people in general that the following regulations for distribution of gasoline will become effective in September:

1. A system using coupons for gasoline purchases will be implemented nationwide.

2. The coupons will be available from the department in which the vehicle is registered only upon presentation of the 1982 circulation card.

3. These coupons may be used at any service station in the country.

The coupons will be distributed as follows:

Managua Department:

1. To receive their allocations, all owners of private and commercial motor vehicles may go to the branches of the national financial system and branches of the Nicaraguan Electricity Institute, INE, in the capital, according to the number of their license plates as listed in the table accompanying this communique which will be published in all the country's newspapers, beginning on Monday, 30 August. The national financial system will be distributing these coupons from 30 August to Saturday, 17 September.

2. The following cases will be handled in the temporary Petronic offices on the ground floor of the (Intermotor) building, a block south of the (Lang) railroad station:

A. Transporters of passengers or cargo authorized by the General Land Transportation Directorate, beginning on Monday, 30 August, during normal duty hours.

B. Owners of vehicles with foreign licenses, either tourists or residents of Nicaragua, beginning on 30 August.

C. Persons requiring authorization to purchase gasoline in drums, beginning on 30 August.

D. All individuals or corporations registered with the General Land Transportation Directorate in the month of August, once they have received their allocations, beginning on 6 September during normal duty hours, upon presentation of their certificate of registration.

3. Owners of vehicles with CD [Diplomatic corps], CC [Consumer corps] and MI [International mission] plates will receive their coupons from the protocol office of the Foreign Ministry.

According to the Petronic communique, the regulations for the rest of the country are as follows:

1. All owners of motor vehicles for land travel, including bus drivers, must go to banking branches or agencies in their department with the 1982 circulation card only, to receive their corresponding allocation, between Monday, 30 August, and Saturday, 17 September, during normal duty hours.

2. Transporters of cargo or passengers authorized by the General Land Transportation Directorate, once they have received their initial quota from the national financial system, will go to ine departmental branches or agencies to receive their allocated complements.

3. All individuals or corporations registered with the departmental branches of the General Land Transportation Directorate, once they have received their initial quota from the national financial system, must go to the INE branches or agencies in the corresponding departmental capitals to receive their assigned complements upon presentation of their registration card.

4. Tourists will be handled primarily at the INE branch or agency that is closest to the border in Rivas, Ocotal or Somoto, where they will receive their allocation according to the period of their stay. In the event their stay is extended, they may go to any INE departmental delegation or agency or to Petronic offices in Managua.

5. Those who wish to purchase fuel in drums will have to present a request with justification at the INE departmental branches or agencies for authorization. This regulation does not apply to special zones 1, 2 and 3.

BRIEFS

MILITIA TRAINING PERIOD -- The second period of militia training will begin throughout Carzo Department today in the department's four training centers. Participation at the training center has increased by 60 percent. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 27 Aug 82 PA]

NEW FOREIGN POLICY DIRECTOR -- It was reported today that Aldo Diaz Lacayo, former Nicaraguan ambassador to Mexico, will be the Foreign Ministry's new general director for foreign policy. He will replace Jorge Canda, the present Nicaraguan alternate delegate at the United Nations. [Text] [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 27 Aug 82 PA]

NEW CUSTOMS DIRECTOR -- Carlos Vasquez Gomez has just been appointed new director general of customs. [Managua El NEUVO DIARIO in Spanish 18 Aug 82 p 1 PA]

ENERGY AGREEMENT WITH COSTA RICA -- Emilio Rappaccioli, minister-director of the Nicaraguan Energy Institute (INE), and Teofilo de la Torre, president of the Costa Rican Energy Institute (ICE), yesterday signed an agreement to connect the electrical systems of the two countries. The agreement makes it possible for Costa Rica to sell energy to Nicaragua at great savings for Nicaragua. In addition, in time Nicaragua will be able to supply energy to Costa Rica in cases of emergency. [Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 6 Aug 82 p 12 PA]

BROADCASTS BLANK OUT U.S. RADIO STATIONS

PA312230 Paris AFP in Spanish 2153 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Havana, 31 Aug (AFP) -- Official sources here have confirmed that a Cuban station's transmission last night blanked out commercial stations in at least four states -- Texas, Missouri, Iowa and Tennessee.

The transmission -- consisting of a Cuban musical program alternating with an English-language newscast called the "Voice of Cuba", which were broadcast on several mediumwave frequencies -- was, according to the sources, "a small test."

The Federal Communications Commission said this afternoon in Washington that the "Voice of Cuba" caused interference Monday using powerful transmissions that blanked out private U.S. broadcasting stations. The Cuban broadcasts "drowned out the receivers of the U.S. listeners in several states," the FCC said.

Sources consulted in Havana declined to say whether what they described as "small tests" will continue on a regular basis, but said that the "Voice of Cuba" is an old program directed abroad that can also be heard in Havana. "Small tests" like yesterday's were previously conducted last Thursday, they said.

Nevertheless, the broadcasts on Monday and Thursday night were in English instead of the customary Spanish and used much more power than usual, local listeners said. Diplomatic observers said in this way the Cuban Government is trying to give Washington an example of the reprisals that it can exercise should "Radio Marti" go on the air.

ENDERS' REMARKS ON CENTRAL AMERICA SCORED

PA311557 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Aug 82

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] It has been said many times and with more than enough reason that the Yankee imperialists lack imagination since they disguise their lies with a lack of craft which borders on the ridiculous. The worst thing is that once they fabricate a story, they want the peoples of the world to believe it, with the absurd idea that the peoples will be easily deceived.

Latin America is a region of the world that has been a frequent target of the lies and slanders of the imperialist U.S. Government. A simple review of our America's history is enough to prove that not a single country of the subcontinent has not suffered the lies, tricks and slanders of the Yankee imperialists.

In recent days news dispatches reported a new story by the U.S. Government. In this case, the storyteller is an old Yankee official: Thomas Enders, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs. In remarks in San Francisco, Enders launched what many observers describe as a new propaganda campaign about U.S. control over the introduction of weapons and ammunition in Central America. In this regard, Enders said the United States is seriously studying the possibility of reducing to zero the number of military advisers in the region, of stopping the entry of offensive weapons such as tanks and fighter planes, of guaranteeing ideological pluralism in Nicaragua and of beginning negotiations to ease tensions in Central America.

Referring to those remarks, which were approved in principle by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, the U.S. newspaper THE NEW YORK TIMES called them the rhetoric of a minor confrontation. Many political observers agreed with the newspaper, adding that in his remarks Enders departed from the Yankee government's real policy with regard to its current relations with Central America. First of all, they pointed out, the U.S. official did not refer to the military and economic aid that the United States gives to the genocidal Salvadoran regime, without which the genocidal officers who today misgovern that heroic Central American country would have been totally swept away by the revolutionary forces a long time ago. He forgot that U.S. military advisers direct the main counterinsurgency operations of the Salvadoran Army, which is armed to the teeth by the Yankee Pentagon.

Enders also overlooked the fact that this year the United States considerably increased the military aid it gives to the Honduran regime, where Yankee experts advise that Central American country's army and build airports and military installations with the evident intention of using them against the Nicaraguan revolution and the liberation movements in the area.

Thomas Enders also ignored the presence in Central American waters of U.S. warships -- which constitute a permanent threat to the new Nicaragua and other Central American countries -- as well as the aggressive Symms amendment that the Yankee Senate recently approved and through which President Ronald Reagan has been given a green light to undertake military actions against the region's peoples.

These and countless other actions that show the real face of imperialism are the ones that Thomas Enders tried to ignore by trying to make people believe there is a change in the Yankee policy toward the area. The new maneuver is nothing but a smokescreen to cover up the White House's real intentions of guaranteeing its predominance in the region by crushing the Nicaraguan revolution and the liberation movements, imposing what America calls peace, that is, the imposition of the interests of the monopolies and the war industry.

However, for a long time now our America's peoples have not been deceived by this type of story. The Yankee imperialsts will get tired of shouting their lies from the rooftops, since the most inoffensive reply they will receive is the old saying that goes: Go take your story somewhere else!

FOREIGN MINISTER MALMIERCA RETURNS TO HAVANA

FL311915 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1821 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Isidoro Malmierca, Cuban foreign minister and member of Cuba's Communist Party Central Committee, has returned to Cuba. Following a visit to Iraq, Malmierca stopped over in Hungary, and later attended a meeting of the Nonaligned Movement Coordinating Bureau in New York.

During his stay in Baghdad, the Cuban foreign minister met with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to whom he delivered a message from the chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, Fidel Castro.

SEVENTH NONALIGNED SUMMIT TO BE HELD IN NEW DELHI

FL310036 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0026 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Cuba today informed the Nonaligned Movement Coordinating Bureau at the United Nations that a consensus exists to hold the seventh nonaligned summit in New Delhi, India. Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca reported on the message sent by the movement's chairman, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, to the heads of state and government of the nonaligned, in which he states that President Saddam Husayn, in a constructive stance which contributes to the movement's unity, has said that the Iraqi Government does not insist on holding the meeting in Baghdad. With this gesture, he facilitates the adoption of necessary measures.

Taking into consideration the replies obtained and the consultations carried out, it was concluded that there was a consensus to hold the seventh summit in the Indian capital on the nearest possible date that the Indira Gandhi government can host the meeting.

CAMPAIGN TO 'SAVE' PARAGUAYAN COMMUNIST URGED

PA311338 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Aug 82

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] The Paraguayan tyranny headed by Alfredo Stroessner is again trying to murder Antonio Maidana in prison. Maidana is the first secretary of the Paraguayan Communist Party. Once again, voices are raised to demand that the life of the vigorous Paraguayan revolutionary leader be respected.

The Paraguayan Communist leader Ananias Maidana charged in Moscow that Antonio Maidana is kept in an underground cell in Asuncion, isolated from the rest of the political prisoners, subjected to cruel tortures. He added that the Stroessner regime often transfers Maidana from one prison to another. Maidana was kidnapped 2 years ago in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and taken to Paraguay. Ananias Maidana affirmed that the kidnapping of the first secretary of the Paraguayan Communist Party involved repressive agents of the tyrant Stroessner, advised and aided by members of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

Meanwhile, the Vietnamese daily NHAN DAN, published in Hanoi, also denounced Stroessner's plans to murder Antonio Maidana just as he has killed dozens of other Paraguayan patriots during the 28 years that his regime, which maintains a heartless policy of repression and terrorism, has existed.

In West Berlin, the Unified Socialist Party urged world public opinion to double its efforts for the release of Antonio Maidana, who remains a symbol of the people's resistance to Stroessner's fascist dictatorship, which is maintained in power thanks to U.S. support. Saving Antonio Maidana's life, releasing him from the hands of his executioners, is currently one of the main tasks for the international solidarity movement, according to the declaration of West Berlin's Unified Socialist Party.

During its second congress in December 1980, the Cuban Communist Party approved a resolution of solidarity with Antonio Maidana. The resolution urged the revolutionary, progressive and humanitarian organizations of the world to make every effort to save the life of the courageous Paraguayan Communist fighter. Today, as the tyranny again tries to murder Antonio Maidana, it is imperative that the demands of respect for his life be intensified everywhere.

VISITING URUGUAYAN LEFTIST LEADER INTERVIEWED

PA311915 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Aug 82

[Interview with Juan Jose Mena, leader of the 26 March Independent Movement of Uruguay; no date or place given -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] What is the reason for your visit to Cuba?

[Answer] First I would like to greet the people and revolution of Cuba, whose hospitality, solidarity and internationalism are amazing. We were invited by AALAPSO to participate in a rally which is part of a worldwide campaign for the release of our dear leader Raul Sendic and all Uruguayan political prisoners.

[Question] Is 1 September the 10th anniversary of Sendic's arrest?

[Answer] Yes, he was wounded at dawn on 1 September 1972 after many hours of fighting in an unequal battle, totally surrounded by large forces of the navy and army. Already wounded in the face, he was asked to surrender and he replied with a phrase that today is a symbol that marks the path of the Uruguayan revolutionaries. He said: "I am a Red [rojo] and will not surrender. Come and get me!"

[Question] Then he did not surrender?

[Answer] He fell when he became absolutely incapable of defending himself any longer.

[Question] Is this a worldwide rally in solidarity with Sendic and the other Uruguayan political prisoners?

[Answer] This rally will end with an activity to take place on 1 September here in Cuba at 1500 hours. Its importance is evidenced by the presence of Companera Melba Hernandez [AALAPSO executive secretary], and it is part of a worldwide campaign for the release of Raul Sendic and all other political prisoners. Similar activities will take place that same day in Nicaragua and European countries such as Sweden, the Netherlands, Belgium and Italy, and in the Spanish cities of Madrid and Barcelona. These activities, however, will continue for the next 2 months.

[Question] Mena, what information do you have concerning the situation and the health of Raul Sendic?

[Answer] For the past 9 years, Raul Sendic has been totally isolated in dungeons in the interior of the republic. Every report we receive makes us even more concerned about his health which, however, has not affected his morale.

We are seriously concerned, not so much for his health condition as for the imminent threat to his life. We believe Sendic and the other prisoners in his condition are being gradually led to their death in the near term. Therefore, we want to ask the governments and peoples to exert pressure for his release and also for his life, in order to make sure he will not be eliminated.

U.S., SOUTH AFRICAN 'OBSTACLES' IN NAIBIA HIT

PA311630 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] In today's edition, the Cuban newspaper GRANMA comments on the obstacles erected over the past years by the United States and South Africa to solution of the Namibia problem. Namibia is illegally occupied by the Pretoria regime.

GRANMA denounces the long series of maneuvers undertaken by the imperialists to achieve at the negotiation table what they have been unable to achieve on the battlefield; that is, to turn Namibia into a neocolony and set up a government there which does not respond to the aspirations of the masses. In this respect, the Cuban newspaper points out that neither the United States nor South Africa have respected UN Resolution 435, which establishes the method of decolonizing that territory, have accused that international organization of being biased, and have carried out all sorts of dirty maneuvers to reach their goals.

GRANMA points out that the latest U.S.-South African maneuver was subordinating the issue of Namibian independence to the withdrawal of Cuban internationalist troops from Angola. After recalling that with the aid of the Cuban internationalists the Angolan people were able to stave off the 1975 South African invasion, GRANMA underlines that the governments of Luanda and Havana have twice agreed to gradually reduce the amount of Cuban fighters in that African state. This has had to be put off because of new threats of aggressions from the Pretoria racists.

Nevertheless, the newspaper explains, both governments have shown willingness to analyze the withdrawal of those troops provided that the threats of aggression against Angolan territory cease. This will be impossible while South Africa continues its illegal occupation of Namibia, since many of the armed aggressions against Angola are launched from there.

GRANMA concludes that this is why the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola is a sovereign decision to be adopted solely by those two countries, and that this withdrawal can never be subject to bargaining or conditioned to anything or anybody.

PLO'S 'ARAFAT SENDS GREETINGS TO CASTRO 31 AUG

FL311215 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 31 Aug 82

[Text] Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat sent warm greetings to Fidel Castro and the Cuban revolution on Monday shortly before departing west Beirut for Greece on an official visit to that country at the invitation of Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou.

To Fidel, said 'Arafat, we send our warmest greetings and our appreciation for all his assistance and support. We will never forget, added the PLO chairman, that we always have Fidel on our side.

On Monday the top Palestinian leader received Cuban Ambassador to Lebanon Jacinto Alvarez, to whom he conveyed greetings for the leader of the Cuban revolution.